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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

What do you think is a reasonable rate for Internet access in the CNMI?

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Jerry Sandusky's wife smiled as she took the witness stand on Tuesday to defend him against charges he sexually abused boys in their home and on Penn State's campus.

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Egypt's Hosni Mubarak was being kept alive by life support after the 84-year-old ousted leader suffered a stroke in prison Tuesday.

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For the first time, the influx of Asians moving to the U.S. has surpassed that of Hispanics, reflecting a slowdown in illegal immigration while American employers increase their demand for high-skilled workers.

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Pula: Pacific's future is what we make of it

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» 'Blue Continent' leaders tackle challenges, solutions in APIL meet
» Fitial urges islands to learn from CNMI's request on 200-mile EEZ

U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Director Nikolao I. Pula Jr. said "the future of the Pacific is what we make of it" as he called on Pacific leaders to work with one another and with the federal government to battle financial hardships, develop their economies, and protect their environment.

Pula was the guest speaker during the opening ceremonies of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly.

The APIL meet drew over 100 CNMI and visiting dignitaries including those from Guam, Hawaii, Palau, the Marshall Islands, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, Kosrae and Kiribati, collectively dubbed the "Blue Continent."

Pula shared OIA's work over the last three years to help empower island economies address high energy costs, collect first sets of economic data, assess school needs, and further pursue partnerships against a backdrop of significant budget slashes.

"Today is our opportunity to be proactive, emboldened, and ready to unitedly

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Fitial: Growing number of illegal aliens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Fitial

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday there's been an increase in the number of those considered illegal aliens mainly because of Asian pregnant women who entered the CNMI to give birth to U.S. citizens and have remained here long after their tourist visas have expired.

CNMI immigration is now under federal control as a result of a 2008 law that also allowed the islands to vote for the first time a nonvoting delegate to the U.S. Congress.

The governor has been asking the federal government to give back local control of borders.

Fitial said his office will release data on the estimated number of illegal aliens here.

Back in March, he said the number is around "9,000," a figure that other officials, including Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), said was "overly inflated."

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Director Nikolao Pula, center, addresses members and guests of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly while CNMI Associate Justice Alexandro Castro, right, looks on during yesterday's opening ceremonies in the House of Representatives chamber on Capital Hill. The four-day APIL meeting is focused on discussing economic development challenges and solutions, particularly in the areas of tourism, airlines, and the environment.

Senate considers rejecting both Fund, CUC emergency declarations

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Rota resident to protest Fitial's Fund EO

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said yesterday the Senate is considering rejecting Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's emergency declaration for the NMI Retirement Fund and the extended declaration for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., but a final decision will be made after senators meet with Fund and CUC officials and stakeholders.

The Senate might hold a session next week.

Manglona said the Senate leadership has sought legal opinion on the governor's emergency declarations.

"The Commonwealth Retirees Association also requested the Senate to reject the Fund EO. We are considering such action," Manglona said.

The Senate president said they still consider rejecting the CUC emergency declaration, which the governor extended on Saturday for another 30 days. Manglona said CUC issues could be addressed without placing it under the governor's control, and hopes that the

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Local

MVA reopens China offshore office

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority partially lifted the baseline mode operation of the tourism agency and reopened its offshore office in China in an effort to maximize opportunities for the islands' tourism industry.

Because of the government's cash flow problem and delays in the budget allotments for MVA, the board was forced to order a baseline mode operation on MVA since October 2010.

This forced the tourism body to suspend the functions of ad-hoc committees and stopped nearly all its overseas promotions, primarily relying on representation services of its offshore offices in Japan and Korea.

During yesterday's MVA general membership meeting, board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce announced that the partial lifting of the baseline mode is expected to last until at least September this year.

Aldan-Pierce disclosed that the board diverted a portion of its budget to reopen the China office.

To date, she said the reopened office is now actively working with its partners in China, the media, and consumers.

Saipan Tribune learned that MVA terminated its office site in China in 2005 as a result of low tourist arrivals from the market during the time. Now that the China market's share in tourist arrivals in the CNMI has improved, MVA revived its offshore office in the market.

Aldan-Pierce reported to members yesterday that China arrivals posted the highest increase, representing a 123-percent hike since the start of the fiscal year through March 2012. China posted arrivals of 37,000 from September through March.

Other destinations like Korea also posted increase in arrivals during the same period with a 10-percent hike or about 65,000 arrivals. The Russian market, it was announced, also posted a gain of 10 percent or about over 3,000 arrivals.

Overall, Aldan-Pierce revealed that the CNMI posted a 8-percent increase in total arrivals through March this year, with over 198,000 arrivals. Unfortunately, she said, arrivals from the key market of Japan showed consistent decline. She said because of MVA's market diversification strategy, this helps alleviate some of the losses incurred from the decline in the Japan market.

MVA also has existing offices in Japan and Korea, considered the top tourism markets of the CNMI. In other destinations like the Philippines, China, and Russia the agency is partnering with travel agents.

This fiscal year, MVA was appropriated $5 million for its operation. Of the figure, over 80 percent is being utilized in promotions and marketing while the remaining budget is allocated for personnel and all others.

MVA board welcomes back former chair

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Businessman Jerry Tan is back at the Marianas Visitor Authority after its board of directors unanimously voted to reinstate its former chairman yesterday.

The MVA is governed by a nine-member board of directors, five of them are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The remaining four are elected by board members of the MVA. Tan's appointment was junked by the Senate in December 2010, citing Tan's alleged lack of support for tourism on Tinian and Rota as among the reasons.

During yesterday's election of new board members, Tan, president of Tan Holdings, was among the four individuals who won by acclamation and was sworn into office by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

The three others included James Nelson of Docomo Pacific, Kazusuke Fukuju of Pacific Micronesia Tours Inc., and Chris Nelson of Marianas Trekking/Flame Tree TV. All members will serve a four-year term.

Tan expressed appreciation to the members for the vote of confidence and vowed to do his best to help in the recovery of the tourism industry on island.

Among his top priorities is to advocate and push for greater community engagement to tourism, which he described remains the sole and only industry of the CNMI. In acknowledging the ongoing challenges that negatively impact island tourism, Tan said he looks forward in working again with MVA and its partners. Tan held the chairmanship position for five years.

Chris Nelson, for his part, said he will take his new responsibility seriously, while James Nelson described the appointment as a great opportunity to extend care and help for the islands' tourism industry.

Fukuju, meantime, promised to bring to the table important information about the outside markets that will help the board in its decision-making. All four newly sworn members extended their gratitude for the vote of confidence from their peers.

In his message to the MVA members yesterday, Fitial commended the agency and its board, which despite limited resources, has helped the CNMI economy stay afloat. Fitial said he joined MVA and Tan in a recent trip to Japan for the launching of Saipan Air and described the reception as very positive.

CLARISSA DAVID

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, left, administers the swearing in for four newly elected members of the Marianas Visitors Authority board of directors during the agency's general membership meeting yesterday at Fiesta Resort & Spa Hotel. Newly elected board of directors include, from right, Jerry Tan of Tan Holdings, Kazusuke Fukuju of Pacific Micronesia Tours Inc., Chris Nelson of Marianas Trekking/Flame Tree TV, and James Nelson of Docomo Pacific.

Govendo awards Atalig, Yana $75K in attorneys' fees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has awarded suspended lawyers Antonio M. Atalig and Reynaldo O. Yana $75,525 in attorneys' fees, but ordered the two to return $1.2 million plus interest to the estate of Angel Malite.

In his findings and final judgment issued on Tuesday, Govendo said after applying the factors listed in Rule 1.5 of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, he finds that Atalig's and Yana's attorneys' fees charged in this case are excessive and unreasonable.

Govendo said he finds that a total of $75,525 in attorneys' fees is reasonable.

The judge explained in his findings the breakdown of the $75,525.

He said Atalig is awarded $3,000 for the work done prior to the initiation of administrative proceedings with the Marianas Public Lands Authority.

Govendo said Atalig is entitled to $72,525 and Yana is entitled to $24,175 for the work performed during the time period between the application to MPLA and the civil action (Attorney General's lawsuit against the Malite estate and MPLA to stop the payment).

Yana's share, the judge said, shall be paid from Atalig's share.

Govendo denied fees for Atalig's and Yana's representation in the civil case due to the attorneys' numerous breaches of ethics.

The judge ruled that the prior judgment of $1,288,500 awarded to Atalig and Yana is reduced to $1,212,975.

"It is hereby ordered that Atalig and Yana return $1,212,975 plus interest to the Estate of Angel Malite," Govendo said in the final judgment.

Govendo made the findings after an evidentiary hearing he conducted on Feb. 3, 2012.

The hearing was held because the CNMI Supreme Court remanded to the Superior Court for a determination as to the reasonableness of attorneys' fees.

According to court records, after the Department of Public Lands paid the Malite estate $3,450,000 in settlement for a parcel of land, Atalig and Yana sought $1,138,500 in attorney's fees for their work securing the settlement.

After then Superior Court associate judge Juan T. Lizama awarded the fees to Atalig and Yana, Malite heirs filed a motion arguing that the fees were unjustified and needed to be returned.

In response, Govendo then ordered the two lawyers to temporarily return the money to the court pending a final determination on the appropriate fee award.

When Atalig and Yana refused, Govendo held them in civil contempt and threw them in jail until they complied. Govendo subsequently held that Atalig and Yana were not entitled to any attorney fees whatsoever.

Atalig and Yana appealed to the Supreme Court. The high court freed the two on Dec. 24, 2009.

In December 2010, the high court ordered the Superior Court to conduct a hearing on the appropriate amount of attorney's fees to be awarded Atalig and Yana for work they performed for the Malite estate.

The high court ruled that when Atalig and Yana failed to comply with Govendo's order, Govendo was permitted to find them in contempt and incarcerate them.

In his 17-page findings of fact and conclusions of law issued on Tuesday, Govendo discussed thoroughly the background of the case.

Govendo said Atalig represented the Malite estate for over 10 years, and it appears that for a majority of those years, 1999 until 2005, there was nothing being done—no filings or motions were taking place within the probate matter.

Govendo said he previously held that any contingent fee was necessarily excessive and unreasonable at the time the contingent fee agreements were entered.

"Therefore, the contingent fee agreements are invalid and unenforceable," the judge said.

Govendo said Atalig asserts that the initial land compensation award was $3,682.30, and as a result of his efforts, the award increased to $3.4 million.

However, Govendo noted, obtaining land compensation for the Marianas High School property was inevitable.

"Atalig's brother sat on the board at the time the $40-million bond was issued. Therefore, no special skill was necessary in obtaining the land compensation award," the judge said.

Atalig, according to Govendo, was in the right place at the right time.

Govendo said majority of the Malite heirs hired their own attorneys because of their lack of trust in Atalig and Yana.

The judge said a number of them retained Stephen Nutting to attempt to negotiate a settlement, and his negotiations with the Attorney General were successful.

"Thus, it is clear that neither Atalig nor Yana did anything to advance the Estate's position in the civil case," Govendo said.

Atalig and Yana recently filed a joint motion asking the Supreme Court to stop an order issued by Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman that suspended them from practicing law in the local courts.

Last May 16, Wiseman ordered the suspension of Atalig and Yana from practicing law in the CNMI for misconduct with regards to their refusal to return $1.1 million in attorneys' fees that the two lawyers received from the Malite estate.

Wife of defendant in sexual assault case arrested for obstructing justice

Police arrested in Garapan on Tuesday night for obstructing justice the wife of a man who was recently arrested for sexually assaulting a woman.

Xia Liu Rios, 38, was served with an arrest warrant for obstructing justice, interference with law enforcement officer or witness, assault, and disturbing the peace.

Rios was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for her initial appearance.

Detective Melissa H. Bauleong stated in her report that police started conducting an investigation on Sunday after a mother and her daughter filed a complaint at the Department of Public Safety Central Headquarters.

Bauleong said the mother alleged that Rios called her on the phone regarding the case of her husband, Anthony Rios.

Mrs. Rios apparently wanted the mother to tell her daughter to tell the police that what happened to her and Mr. Rios was a misunderstanding.

Mrs. Rios allegedly threatened that if the daughter doesn't want to do her request, she would report her (daughter) to immigration about her status.

The defendant also allegedly threatened that she would get someone from China to harm the daughter.

Mrs. Rios later allegedly begged the daughter to tell the police that everything was a misunderstanding and to write a letter to the court that the incident between her and Mr. Rios never happened. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Residents to help Air Force make final decision on divert airfield

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Residents' sentiments would help the U.S. Air Force in making a final decision in designating either the Saipan airport or the Tinian airport as a divert or contingency airfield in support of expanding the Air Force's mission requirements in the western Pacific in the event that access to Guam's Andersen Air Force Base is limited or denied.

Saipan is the "preferred Alternative 1," while Tinian is the "preferred Alternative 2."

The administration reiterated yesterday that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial "still prefers that the Air Force use Tinian," press secretary Angel Demapan said.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), who offered Rota airport in his formal comment last year, said yesterday the final decision rests with the Air Force although he welcomes designating any of the CNMI islands.

"But if the people of Tinian, for example, want to make it clear to the Air Force that they want to see more military activities on their island, the Air Force will consider that. In the same manner, if Saipan residents voice out that they want the divert airfield here, then that would also be considered. So it's important that residents participate in the public hearings or submit written comments. Our leverage is people's sentiments," Manglona told reporters yesterday.

The Air Force considered four airports: Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. But Guam and Rota were dropped because they do not meet the selection standard for "storm radius."

The following selection standards were developed for the divert airfield: Be located in a U.S. territory; not be located within the average diameter of the eye of a typhoon having damaging winds affecting Andersen Air Force Base (storm radius); provide existing land and infrastructure with expansion capabilities; be located within the Mariana Islands Range Complex training area; and provide existing fuel-receiving capabilities at the port of debarkation.

Unlike Saipan which met all the five, Tinian met only four because it lacks access to fuel vessels.

A Tinian official said having the divert airfield on Tinian is very important for two reasons: First and foremost, the technical agreement to the Covenant virtually guarantees that all future military development in the CNMI will take place on Tinian leased lands; and second, this development will drive forward the development of the Tinian West Field airport as a true international airport."

"It is most important that our people attend the scoping meeting and speak their piece," the Tinian official said.

The community outreach sessions is from June 23, Saturday, to June 27, Wednesday.

Outreach sessions in Koblerville and Dandan have been scheduled as those two communities will have the most direct impact from noise if Saipan is indeed the chosen location for the divert airfield.

The other outreach sessions include: Saipan, Monday, June 25, from 5pm to 8pm at the Multi-Purpose Center; Tinian, Tuesday, June 26, from 5pm to 8pm at Tinian Elementary School; and Rota, Wednesday, June 27, from 4pm to 5:30pm at the Mayor's Office.

SENATE

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administration is not trying to circumvent procurement laws and rules to award contracts to "favored" investors engaged in renewable energy, among other things.

At the same time, Rota resident Joe Ayuyu said yesterday he's preparing to stage a peaceful protest in front of the Fund office on Rota, saying that the governor violated Article III Section 20 of the NMI Constitution when he placed the Fund under a state of emergency.

Ayuyu said he is protesting on behalf of his 90-year-old mother, a retired teacher, whom he said fears having her retirement pension cut as a result of the emergency declarations.

He said the placards or banners he will be carrying say it all: "State of emergency declaration for NMI Retirement Fund unconstitutional, violates Article III Section 20 of the CNMI Constitution," and "Governor Fitial, you are not above the law. Lack of funds is not or never a justification to violate the law."

Ayuyu also said the governor's state of disaster emergency declaration fails to pass constitutional muster, and this was what Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-CNMI) earlier pointed out.

Examples of "disasters" are the occurrence or imminent threat of a widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including, but not limited to, typhoons, tornadoes, storms, floods, high waters, wind-driven waters, tidal waves, earthquakes, fires, oil spills, or other water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, or explosion.

ALIENS

From Page 1

"It's really big now… You know last year, you won't believe how many aliens came in. I'll give you the statistics (later). Most of them came in pregnant," Fitial told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly on Capital Hill yesterday.

The governor recognized that these individuals came here on tourist visas.

"But how can you stay for more than a year? They're still around, collecting food stamps," Fitial added. The food stamps are meant for U.S. citizen children.

Under the CNMI-Guam visa waiver program, tourists from China and Russia can stay in the Marianas for a maximum of 45 days.

Babies born in the CNMI, as in other U.S. states and territories, are automatically U.S. citizens regardless of the nationality of their parents.

Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), a former CNMI immigration director, separately said yesterday similar cases of birth tourism that became cases of overstaying "was minimal back then" when the CNMI was still in control of its own immigration.

"If we knew of reported incidents, we would remove them from the CNMI. They were overstaying mainly because they were still waiting for their child's birth certificate," he said.

Under CNMI immigration control, tourists from mostly Asian countries were required to apply for and be granted authorization to board. They could stay in the CNMI for 30 days, with an option to extend that for another 60 days.

"At the time, we relied on tourists' responses as to the purpose of their visit which was to visit the island. There were some incidents when they came here pregnant so they can give birth here," he said.

There have also been websites that market Saipan or the CNMI as an ideal place to give birth to U.S. citizens. These websites mostly cater to mothers or families in China and Korea.

When the CNMI economy tanked, scores of long-term foreign workers lost their jobs and many of them have applied for and been granted parole by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for them to be able to remain in the CNMI legally as they continue to look for jobs, among other things. Some of them are covered in Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's H.R. 1466, which grants CNMI-only resident status to four groups of people including foreign parents of minor U.S. citizens.

Worker groups have also been asking the federal government to grant green card or pathway to U.S. citizenship to long-term legal workers in the CNMI, something that the Fitial administration has been opposing.

PULA

From Page 1

determine our way forward," he said toward the end of his 18-page prepared remarks, but was adding to it or veering away from it as he saw fit.

But Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in his welcoming remarks, did not hide his frustration with the federal government because he said legislation can still be passed by the U.S. Congress with grave repercussions for the CNMI.

Fitial said because the CNMI lacks a "voting" delegate to Congress, the islands rely on the U.S. Department of the Interior to address most of the Commonwealth's concerns with the federal government.

"Some of the other Pacific Island territories may also appreciate the difficulties encountered by the CNMI. Many of our local political and economic issues are also related to some of your concerns," the governor said.

The CNMI now has a nonvoting delegate, Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), but he cannot vote on legislation. But Sablan has said he has been working with Democratic and Republican members of Congress to help advance the CNMI's interests.

Fitial and Sablan don't see eye-to-eye on a host of issues, including approaches to immigration and economic development.

One of the issues that Fitial wants the federal government's concession is the CNMI's longtime request related to submerged lands, particularly to be allowed to develop its underwater resources and the pursuit of greater economic opportunities.

"In essence, all we are asking for is to be treated the same way as U.S. coastal states. They are afforded a portion of economic benefits within the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone. I urge you all to look into the CNMI's position to see whether your respective jurisdiction can benefit from it as well," Fitial told APIL members and guests assembled in the CNMI House of Representatives chamber on Capital Hill.

Fitial also used the occasion to take a swipe at the CNMI's own Legislature.

"As legislators, you all hold a very important role in pursuing and implementing solutions to our economic and political problems. This is why it is important for the legislature and the executive branch to work together. After all, you are all elected representatives of the people," Fitial said.

Fitial declared a state of emergency for three major government entities—the NMI Retirement Fund whose Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition was dismissed by a federal court; the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

While the CNMI House of Representatives' leadership is pro-administration, the Senate has taken the role of checking and balancing the administration's moves.

Challenges and solutions

Rebluud Kesolei, president of APIL, said in an interview that the priority issue now among APIL members is strengthening their economies and protecting their environment.

Kesolei, a lawmaker from Palau, said most APIL member jurisdictions have limited flights, as well as costly shipping costs, that impede the development and maintenance of their tourism. Some islands, he said, have flights only once or twice week.

He hopes that other airlines will also invest in the Pacific just like what Continental Airlines/United Airlines did.

The APIL president also said island territories including his home island of Palau, Kiribati, and the Marshall Islands are now seeing the impacts of global warming and climate change, with some atolls now submerged in water.

The four-day APIL general assembly on Saipan also saw presentations yesterday on tourism and airlines.

In the CNMI, the co-chairs for this year's APIL meeting are Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) and Acting Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan).

Sustainable economies

Pula, in his remarks, emphasized the value of working together to create sustainable economies. Pula oversees the daily work of the U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

He said over the last three years, under President Barack Obama's administration and the leadership of Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Tony Babauta, the work that OIA has carried out throughout the Pacific "has been more thoughtful, coordinated, and increasingly creative as we have had to deal with significant slashes to our budget."

Pula, from American Samoa, talked about OIA's projects over the last three years that he described as targeted and far-reaching: renewable energy, collecting the first sets of gross domestic products data ever for U.S. territories, assessing the status of schools and education systems and ways in which OIA has explored unconventional partnerships "that will in the long term translate into tangible economic development opportunities for our island communities."

Costs of energy in the region are unsustainable so OIA has helped islands develop a responsible blueprint for the kind of energy they wanted to implement, specifically renewable or alternative energy such as solar, wind, sea current, and geothermal.

Pula said OIA partnered with the U.S. Department of Commerce so that for the first time in the history of the nation, data about economies have been collected to better understand their economic and make informed economic decisions and policies.

OIA also launched the Insular Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms, or ABC, initiatives, in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Army Corps has been assessing the physical state of insular public schools to better address needs.

Pula also talked about economic development partnerships that go back to indigenous roots and seek indigenous solutions for creating opportunities by implementing eco-regional priorities throughout the Pacific to strengthen fisheries management and establish broad-based conservation networks.

'The Coca-Cola lesson'

Pula shared Melinda Gates' experiences in working with the Gates Foundation. Melinda is the wife of Microsoft founder Bill Gates.

Mrs. Gates saw a fascinating trend throughout the world that does not discriminate on race, gender, religious affiliation, or social status and that is the world's love for Coca-Cola.

Pula said in Mrs. Gates' assessment of the success of Coca-Cola, she saw the importance of data to measure progress, employ continuous feedback, immediately put knowledge back into the product, back into the market.

"What else is Coke good at? She discovered Coke's efficiency at tapping into that local entrepreneurial talent," Pula said.

Pula said Mrs. Gates identified a third component that ultimately drives Coke's success and that is their ability to effectively market their product.

The OIA director urged the application of the Coca-Cola lessons to the region by doing preliminary research, by focusing locally and creating a demand for local products, and marketing the Pacific.

Pula said there are 74 to 75 million Chinese and Japanese tourists in the region.

"How do we get our share? Also, do we have the facilities to welcome and to entertain tourists who would be happy and spend money on our shores? These are the questions which determine whether we can take out tourism industry to the next level," he said.

Fitial, a former lawmaker, said he is also a strong advocate of regional collaboration.

"Through the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit, I have joined my fellow heads of state in adopting regional best practices aimed at addressing the most pressing matters affecting our small islands. As this year's theme suggests, I too believe that together, we can strengthen our local economies throughout the Blue Continent. Together, we are the Blue Continent," he said.

‘Project Flame Tree’ to advance needed tourism changes

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A presentation dubbed “Project Flame Tree” was delivered before members and partners of the Marianas Visitors Authority during its general membership meeting yesterday, highlighting among others ongoing challenges and much-needed changes and improvements for the Commonwealth’s ailing tourism industry.

Guest speaker Jerry Tan, president of Tan Holdings and newly elected MVA board member, started his remarks by giving participants a comprehensive overview of the present state of the industry and how far behind the CNMI is from its rival destinations, Guam and Hawaii.

Citing statistics and records, the Commonwealth’s promotional spending for the Japan market alone was given emphasis by Tan, disclosing that Saipan spent only $750,000 for this market in 2011—a figure far behind the $7 million spent by Guam and $8 million expended by Hawaii.

For Tan, any funds appropriated for the purpose of promoting the destination should be considered as an investment rather than expenditure because this investment promises good returns.

He pointed out the need for the CNMI to “redouble” its efforts in marketing the islands. He added that MVA needs at least a $6-million promotional budget each year to do its mandate. In the Commonwealth, he revealed that the MVA budget is just merely on paper, citing the delay in allotments and the actual transfer to the agency resulting in unpaid obligations to vendors.

At present, there are only four airlines flying to the islands—Asiana Airlines, Delta Airlines, Cape Air, and Sichuan Airlines. With the addition of Saipan Air on July 1, Tan said the CNMI is expecting to see an increase in arrivals from key markets.

Saipan Air will initially fly to the following destinations: Osaka, Beijing, and Shonyang. Tan revealed that four other routes maybe explored by the new carrier in the future.

By end of 2012, Tan hopes to see arrivals grow by 400,000 and he expects it to further increase to 500,000 next year until it reaches the target 550,000 arrivals in 2014.

If the CNMI, Tan said, has three daily flights this will inject $100 million annually into the local economy. This is based on surveys that one flight per year equates to 50,000 tourists and each tourist spends $667, or on-island expenditure of $33.3 million per year.

The social media

Tan said because most tourists spend 40 percent of their time on the Internet, travelers mostly rely on information provided by a destination’s websites while others through information passed by friends. In comparing MVA’s with competing destinations like Hawaii and Fiji, Tan pointed out the need to make the necessary “change.”

It was revealed that out of 800 million users of Facebook, the MVA website received only 105 likes; Guam posted 1,124 likes; while Hawaii got 1,324 likes from fans.

Tan also cited the importance of improving the CNMI’s “repeat visitors” which is only at 26 percent compared to Guam with 40 percent and Hawaii with 65 percent repeat visitors.

CLARISSA DAVID

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan presents the highlights of “Project Flame Tree” to the members and partners of Marianas Visitors Authority during its general membership meeting yesterday at Fiesta Resort & Spa. Tan was among the event’s guest of honors and spoke about the changes and improvements the CNMI must adapt to be an attractive and competitive destination.

Stop promoting sites with high crime rates

In acknowledging the government’s lack of funding to support the marketing efforts of MVA, Tan however asked the agency to stop promoting spots where crime rates are high. He cited Obyan Beach and Ladder Beach as among these sites.

“If then government cannot prevent crime, we must blacklist these sites. Do not promote sites that have high crime rates,” he said.

Tan also highlighted the need to re-invent the destination to make it more appealing to tourists and travelers. The CNMI, he said, has its own unique characteristics distinct from its competitors. Optimistic of the CNMI tourism’s bright future, Tan said this could only be achieved if everyone will take ownership of the tourism industry.

Man gets 5 year in jail for stabbing sister

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man accused of stabbing his sister with a metal pipe and a screwdriver in 2010 pleaded guilty yesterday and was slapped with a five-year jail term.

John Frank T. Kileleman, 31, and counsel, assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman accepted Kileleman’s guilty plea and the plea agreement.

As part of the plea deal, assistant attorney general Nicole D. Driscoll dismissed the remaining charges of attempted first degree murder, and three counts of disturbing the peace.

Wiseman sentenced the defendant to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for five years,

» Defendant ordered to seek psychiatric treatment due to his mental health condition

with credit for the time he already served in jail.

After completing the jail sentence, Kileleman will be placed on supervised probation for five years.

Wiseman required Kileleman to seek psychiatric treatment for his mental health condition.

The defendant was ordered to pay $500 in probation fees and $25 in court costs.

During the entire period of his probation, Kileleman is prohibited from having direct or indirect contact with the victim, Elaine Teregeyo, her children or her grandchildren.

According to the plea agreement, on Oct. 14, 2010 on Saipan, Kileleman threw a two-foot metal pipe at his sister Teregeyo’s head, then attacked her with a screw driver, stabbing her repeatedly. The victim suffered multiple lacerations and stab wounds in the head, arms, chest, and back.

Defendant in foiled armed robbery gets 4 years in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of two men charged with seven violations, including attempted first degree murder, in connection with a foiled robbery on two Chinese nationals entered a guilty plea yesterday and was sentenced to four years in prison with no possibility of parole.

Alfred A. Demapan pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon. In exchange for his guilty plea, the Office of the Attorney General agreed to dismiss the remaining charges.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman reluctantly accepted Demapan’s guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Wiseman considered the defendant’s lack of criminal history, among other factors, as he also noted that four years in prison without parole is like imposing a 12-year-jail term.

The judge sentenced the 20-year-old Demapan to 10 years in prison, all suspended except four years.

Demapan was given credit for the time he already served in jail.

After completing the jail sentence, the defendant will be placed on five years of probation. He was ordered to pay a $400 fine, $500 in probation fee, and $25 in court costs.

Wiseman said Demapan is jointly liable to pay $5,379.72 in restitution with his co-defendant.

Wiseman required the defendant to write letters of apology to the victims, Hui Cai and Shu Hua Zhou, and complete 200 hours of community work service.

While in jail, Demapan will be required to participate in anger management counseling through the Department of Corrections.

According to the plea agreement, on Dec. 29, 2009, Demapan along with a co-defendant requested a ride from taxi driver Hu Cai and his girlfriend Shu Hua Zhou with the shared intent to rob them.

When the taxi stopped at their destination, Demapan attacked Cai with a hammer causing lacerations to the head, while the co-defendant attacked Zhou with a knife, attempting to take her money and property.

The defendants then exited the vehicle and fled.

A man too busy to take care of his health, is like a mechanic too busy to take care of his tools
— Spanish Proverb

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Pacific Wellness Center

Nominees for the Leader of the Year pose for a group photo before the announcement of winners.

PHOTOS BY CLARISSA V. DAVID

Best Hafa Adai Spirit awardees Melanie Koch and Benjamin Babauta hold their trophies as they smile for the camera along with the other nominees.

Hyatt 'celebrates' hardworking staff

Hystar of the Year awardee for operations support Benjamin Babauta is flanked by other nominees and Hyatt managers.

Hyatt's Accounting and General Department.

Members of the Engineering and Landscaping Department hold out their trophy after winning the Best Supporting Department award.

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan's Denise Montenegro, Josephine Mesta, and Yosh Gabaldon call out the awardees.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hyatt Regency Saipan concluded its annual "Celebrating Our People" initiative yesterday, capping a three-day event aimed at embracing the hotel's most valuable asset for their tremendous service and dedication to Hyatt's unparalleled corporate culture and ideals.

Close to 200 associates trickled in droves at the hotel's sprawling lovely gardens for a day of fun and fellowship as they shared a sumptuous lunch of fresh green salad and sashimi, barbecued chicken, and spareribs plus a delightful array of desserts.

The employees were seemingly laidback during the gathering, unmindful of the blazing summer heat as they savored their time off of work and with the company of colleagues.

From Monday until yesterday, the "Celebrating Our People" campaign also arranged for a number of activities for Hyatt's formidable workforce which participated in Taga Fit, Total Black Out, Dodge Ball Classic, Tilapia Fishing, Desperate Housewives, Paddle Surf Race, Cook-off challenge, and the Departmental Obstacle Course.

Wednesday's appreciation party was highlighted by the awarding ceremony for Hyatt's most outstanding employees. Melanie Koch and Benjamin Babauta received trophies for winning the Best Hafa Adai Spirit awards.

Anthea Baltazar bagged the Leader of the Year award for the second consecutive year and also took home the Trainer of the Year award. She received trophies for both awards.

The Best Supporting Department went to Engineering and Landscaping, which received a towering trophy for ensuring that the hotel runs efficiently and with the highest standards of quality 24/7.

The coveted Hystar Award was bestowed on Benjamin Babauta for operations support and to William Arevalo for guest services support. Babauta and Arevalo each received $1,000 in cash, a trophy, and five days of extra annual leave.

Josephine Mesta, Hyatt human resources director, described the awardees as "exceptional" and passionate about understanding and demonstrating Hyatt values even if they have only been with the company for less than 10 years.

"They exemplify what Hyatt expects of their employees. I'm very proud of who they are for representing the company's culture and values," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Mesta, "Celebrating Our People" sends a "very strong" message that Hyatt considers its employees as its most important asset, validating its standing as the "preferred employer" anywhere in the world.

"Happy employees make happy customers," Mesta explained. "If you take care of your employees, they would surely take care of our guests. It works that way… I hope that other companies would take that up and appreciate their employees a little bit more."

NMC summer enrollment doubles this year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College posted a significant increase in this year's summer enrollment with 304 full-time equivalent students compared to the 157 students recorded during the same period last year.

NMC dean of student services Leo Pangelinan said the 147-student increase in summer enrollment can be attributed to many factors.

He told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that NMC has increased its outreach efforts and presence in community events and in the high schools with staff committed to building relationships with students, parents, and school personnel.

Also a big factor in the increased enrollment is the continuation of the College Access Challenge Grant scholarships that were provided to high school juniors, seniors, and first year college students to promote first-time or continued enrollment in college courses through the summer.

NMC has also noted the improved access for non-U.S. citizens. This group faces less enrollment barriers or uncertainty regarding immigration status as experienced by this group last year.

Pangelinan added that the Public School System Head Start program staff and teachers have also come forward to enroll in education courses to meet PSS certification requirements and/or B.S. in Education degree requirements.

Records obtained from NMC yesterday show that for this summer period, there are 37 classes with 292 students enrolled and 303 full-time equivalent, or FTE.

There are 14 courses offered by the School of Education with a total enrollment of 193 in School of Education with a total enrollment of 193 in SOE courses. Largest class size this summer session is 25 students.

In a message to the campus community, NMC president Sharon Y. Hart congratulated the entire college on the enrollment numbers for this summer.

"It's important to always look at FTE [full-time equivalent] enrollment numbers, and you will see we are close to double what we were last year. Now, let's all work hard at retaining these students and giving them the best experience possible," said Hart.

NMC is still addressing the concerns of the accreditation commission which is expected to render a decision after its January 2012 assembly. The fate of the only community college on island will be based upon the submission of its comprehensive self evaluation report due in August as well as supplemental report that the institution may turned in to the commission. NMC was placed on continued show cause status after it failed to address all the concerns raised by the commission in its February report.

DEQ offers outreach, training on new Voluntary Response Program

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Division of Environmental Quality began yesterday a series of public outreach and training for the newly developed program called Voluntary Response Program or VRP.

VRP offers the public the opportunity to enter voluntarily into an agreement with DEQ rather than face enforcement action for cleanup activities on properties or sites that have been contaminated or believed to be contaminated with petroleum or other hazardous substances.

The program is aimed at providing a mechanism for environmental cleanup as well as liability protection from DEQ action for the release or threatened release of a harmful substance as specified under the agency's Harmful Substance Regulation.

"VRP gives you that option to work directly with DEQ and receive proper guidelines on how to proceed with the cleanup of the contaminated sites rather than face enforcement action which is a lot more restrictive," Ray S. Masga, DEQ program manager for Site Assessment and Remediation Branch, said in an interview Tuesday.

Masga said the VRP works following a flowchart set up by DEQ, which begins with the submission of VRP application and payment and ends with the issuance of a letter of completion and a covenant not to sue following the successful completion of the program.

He said any owner or prospective owner who wants to clean up a site or property that has been contaminated with petroleum or hazardous substances is eligible to take part in the VRP. Site contamination includes oil spills, hazardous chemical discharges, and underground storage tank leaks.

However, there are three conditions of affected facilities or sites that do not qualify with the VRP: a facility/site subject to a planned or ongoing federal removal action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act or CERCLA; a facility/site listed on the CERCLA National Priorities List or is proposed for listing; or a facility/site subject to a unilateral administrative order, court order, administrative order, consent or judicial consent decree issued or entered into by DEQ or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Yesterday's VRP public outreach and training was conducted at the Tinian Public Library. A similar training will be conducted at the Rota Mayor's Office today from 1pm to 3pm and on Saipan at the DEQ main conference room in Gualo Rai on Monday, June 25, also from 1pm to 3pm. All trainings are free to the public.

"Because we just started, we're getting the word out to the community so that potential responsible parties become aware that there is this kind of opportunity and that they can learn about the VRP first hand," Masga told *Saipan Tribune*.

For more information, visit DEQ or log on to www.deq.gov.mp or call 671-664-8500.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Draft EIS Pre-hearing community outreach /public hearing schedules

The following is the U.S. Air Force Draft EIS Pre-hearing community outreach sessions and Public information hearings Schedule:

■ Koblerville Pre-hearing Community Outreach
Saturday, June 23, 2012 4pm-6pm
Saipan Southern High School
■ Dan Dan Pre-hearing Community Outreach
Sunday, June 24, 2012 4pm-6pm
Dan Dan Elementary School
■ Public Hearing, Saipan
Monday, June 25, 2012 5pm-8pm
Multipurpose Center
■ Public Hearing, Tinian
Tuesday, June 26, 2012 5pm-8pm
Tinian Elementary School
■ Public Information Meeting, Rota
Wednesday, June 27, 2012 4pm-5:30pm
Rota Mayor's Office

Soil and water conservation district meeting on July 10

The Saipan and Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its monthly meeting on July 10, 2012, at 10am at the natural resources conservation service office on Beach Road, Garapan. For more information, please contact Diane Gabaldon at 256-3320. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of 2002 Reunion Dinner

Attention all Marianas High School Class of 2002. A Reunion Dinner Banquet will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2012 from 6pm to 10pm at Pacific Islands Club. Color attire is black, red, or white. Payments received at the door on the day of the event will be $26 per person. RSVP is required For more information, contact Tomokane at 483-0805. ***(PR)***

Animal Health Clinic services resume

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources has resumed its Animal Health Clinic services, which will open twice weekly, to pet owners who want to avail of immunizations for their cats and dogs. Dr. Ignacio T. dela Cruz, DVM was recently retained as the CNMI State Veterinarian. The State Veterinarian is responsible for reviewing and approving permits to import and to export live animals such as livestock, poultry, birds and pets such as dogs and cats into the CNMI. This includes animal products and byproducts, meat, poultry and processed egg products. USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine rules, laws and regulations, as well as local regulations will be implemented and enforced. Dr. dela Cruz will also conduct national program animal disease testing such as brucellosis and tuberculosis as the need arise. Dr. dela Cruz will also provide meat and poultry inspection services, conduct anti-mortem and post-mortem inspection on suspect animals and animals with pathological lesions or conditions. He will act as a USDA relief inspector whenever needed. For more information on Animal Clinic hours, contact DLNR Division of Agriculture, As Perdido at 234-6169. ***(DLNR)***

Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center, in partnership with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, presents the following free workshops:

■ How to start a business: June 22, 2012
■ How to write a business plan: June 29, 2012
■ How to read your financial statements: July 6, 2012
■ How to market your business: July 13, 2012

The workshops will be held at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office on the first floor of the Familia Building in Garapan. All workshops will be from 9am to 11am. Register online at http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/.Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one day before the workshop. For more information contact Linda at 664-3018 or linda@pacificsbdc.com. The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. For arrangements, contact Linda, Tel: (670) 664-3018, or email linda@pacificsbdc.com. ***(PR)***

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

DRAFT EIS FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES, GUAM AND COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) will host a public information meeting on the island of Rota to discuss the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for improving an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in the Mariana Islands in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. The proposed airfield and infrastructure improvements would be designed to support a combination of cargo, fighter, and tanker aircraft and associated support personnel for divert landings, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities. Proposed expanded facilities would be used on an as-needed basis and would not be used as a permanent full-time beddown or installation location. Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport, both within CNMI, are being considered as alternatives for the proposed action. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the USAF has prepared a Draft EIS and is providing this documentation to the public for review.

Copies of the Draft EIS will available for review until July 23, 2012 at:

- Rota- Rota Office of the Mayor; Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Library.

Electronic copies of the Draft EIS may also be downloaded from the project website listed below.

The public is encouraged to attend the EIS public information meeting, which will be held at the following date, time, and location; **June 27, 2012 - Office of the Mayor, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Members of the public and all other interested parties are encouraged to provide verbal and/or written comments to the USAF to identify specific issues or topics for consideration in the EIS. Verbal and/or written comments may be submitted at the public information session or via postal mail. All comments on the Draft EIS must be submitted or postmarked no later than July 23, 2012.

Mail comments to:

Capt Rebecca Heyse, PACAF/PA
25 E Street, Suite G-108
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert Marianas EIS

In addition, comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted via telephone voice recording system by dialing 1-855-200-6734, and via the project website at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.

Officials discuss Hawaiian island's potential sale

HONOLULU (AP)—The sale of Hawaii's smallest publicly accessible inhabited island is imminent, and local leaders are anticipating what new ownership could mean for the island's some 3,200 residents.

A potential buyer of Lanai, part of Maui County, was revealed to Gov. Neil Abercrombie and the county's mayor at a meeting last week with representatives from landowner Castle & Cooke Inc. Self-made billionaire David Murdock's Castle & Cooke owns 98 percent of island's 141 square miles.

"I was told they're in serious negotiations," Mayor Alan Arakawa told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "There's a possibility Lanai may be sold in a week or so."

He said he's sworn to secrecy about the buyer's identity. But any buyer would have to have deep pockets.

The asking price is reportedly between $500 million and $600 million, the Maui News reported. Castle & Cooke did not immediately comment Tuesday.

In 2000, Murdock bought out fellow Castle & Cooke shareholders for nearly $700 million and took the company private.

The island is still known as the "pineapple island," even though Murdock has closed its pineapple operations to make way for luxury resort and home development. The island boasts unspoiled charm with 30 miles of paved roads, 400 miles of unpaved roads and no stoplights. According to the Hawaii Tourism Authority, more than 26,000 people visited the island this year as of April, a 6 percent decline from the same period last year. Niihau is Hawaii's smallest inhabited island, but permission is required to visit.

Arakawa said the sale could again alter the economic structure of the island and its residents, who have seen the passing of Lanai's longtime pineapple industry and now rely on employment at resorts, golf courses and other businesses. Aside from the hotels, the island's infrastructure is at stake, he noted.

"I have to be able to feel out the perspective new owner and what their intentions are," Arakawa said.

He said he's confident that Murdock's love for the island will mean ensuring the new owner is a good steward, evidenced by Arakawa being regularly updated on sale developments.

"They will consult with us because they know it's critical for the survival of the island," he said. "I know that Mr. Murdock really likes the island. A lot of this has been sentimental for him. He's put a lot of money into the island."

But he understands Murdock's desire to sell. The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported the island produced annual losses of roughly $20 million to $30 million from 2006 to 2010.

CNMI Scholarship Office accepting applications for fall 2012 semester

The CNMI Scholarship Office would like to remind interested applicants that the deadline to apply for a CNMI Scholarship award for the fall 2012 term is on Monday, July 2, 2012. Supporting documents are due by the Aug. 31 (early action) or Oct. 1, 2012 (regular) deadlines. This deadline applies to all new, ongoing, and returning applicants. New applicants for the PL 14-37 Honor Scholarship must submit all documents together by July 2, 2012.

Who is qualified to apply?

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

To apply under the Educational Assistance Program, new applicants must first meet the following criteria 1) Must be a U.S. citizen domiciled in the CNMI for two consecutive years prior to college enrollment; 2) Must be a high school, advanced development institute, or GED graduate; 3) Must show proof of acceptance at the Northern Marianas College unless residency is on an island other than Saipan or applicant has already obtained an associate's degree and is enrolled at another accredited institution.

Required documents for "new" applicants: 2012/13 fall application; acceptance letter into the Northern Marianas College or another accredited college or university; copy of U.S. passport or birth certificate; proof of CNMI residency for 2010 and 2011 (CNMI Annual Tax Return, CNMI Employment Verification, Official Transcript, or other documents as appropriate); most recent official transcript; Fall 2012 class schedule.

For "ongoing" and "returning" applicants: The renewal application itself must be submitted by the July 2 deadline, all supporting documents (i.e. official transcript, fall 2012 class schedule, etc.) may be submitted by the August 31 (early action) or Oct. 1 regular deadline. A supporting document checklist is provided in the application.

P.L. 14-37 HONOR SCHOLARSHIP

While the same application form can be used to apply for the P.L. 14-37 Honor Scholarship award, new high school applicants for these merit-based awards are assessed based on criteria such as academic achievement, service to community, and participation in extra-curricular activities. High School graduates from December 2011 or May/June 2012 are eligible to apply. To qualify, new applicants must meet the following criteria 1) Must have graduated from a high school within the United States of America or one of its territories as one of the top students scholastically, provided that the applicant has attained the highest scholastic achievement with a 4.0 or higher cumulative grade point average; 2) Must have graduated within and have attended school within the CNMI for a minimum total of six years. Within the six years requirement, applicants must have attended high school within the CNMI two years immediately preceding the date of the award (11th and 12th grade enrollment and then any four years of elementary or lower secondary schooling); 3) Applicant's parents must be bona fide CNMI resident(s) at the time of application for a minimum period of eight years prior to the date of application.

Recipients for these Honor Scholarship awards are chosen by the Scholarship Advisory Board through a blind-selection process. Applicants who are not chosen are eligible to receive financial assistance under the Educational Assistance Program.

Required Documents: Official High School Transcript (showing a cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale); acceptance letter from an accredited college or university; certified Scholastic Achievement Test and/or American College Testing; two letters of recommendations; a list itemizing positions and participation in extra-curricular activities that includes a description of the club, activity and/or event, duties involved, number of hours of participation which must be certified with a signature from the person in charge, supervisor, principal, teacher or counselor, etc; provide proof of U.S. citizenship and CNMI residency such as official transcripts, a copy of U.S. passport, parents' CNMI annual tax forms, CNMI voter registration, or other similar documents deemed acceptable or appropriate by the Scholarship Advisory Board.

Where to get and submit application forms?

Application forms, containing complete instructions and a calendar, along with a list of required documents, are available at the CNMI Scholarship Office in Capitol Hill or online at www.cnmischolarship.com.

The application form and required documents must be submitted to the CNMI Scholarship Office by the established deadlines.

Deadline

Application-only deadline: postmarked by July 2, 2012.

Supporting documents deadline: postmarked by the Aug. 31, 2012 (early action) or Oct. 1, 2012 (regular) deadline.

New High School PL 14-37 Honor Scholarship applications and materials must be submitted together to the CNMI Scholarship Office by 4:30 pm on July 2, 2012.

For inquiries, call 664-4750 or email cnmieap@cnmischolarship.com.

Further information may be found on the www.cnmischolarship.com website. ***(Office of the Governor)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB12-DPS/RBS-059

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 09, 2012 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2011/2012 90HP OUTBOARD MOTOR ENGINES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, ***LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE***, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
ACTING COMMISIONER, DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB12-DPS/RBS-083

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 09, 2012 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A 2011/2012 PERSONAL WATERCRAFT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
ACTING COMMISIONER, DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 21, 1999

Filipino workers are investing in real estate

Despite the uncertainty of their employment contracts in the CNMI, Filipino workers here are investing in real estate in the hope to fulfill their dream to own a house back in the Philippines. Visiting loan program manager Vincent N. Nery said following its first housing fair held on Saipan last year, the number of borrowers from the CNMI has more than doubled. "From 17 borrowers before the fair, we have 210 as of today," he said.

BOE decides to build one high school, junior high

The Board of Education decided against the proposal to build two new high schools on Saipan and favored the original plan to construct a junior high school and a new high school. In a special meeting called last Friday, board members carried the motion to develop a junior high school in Kagman III, near the site where the elementary school is being constructed. For the new high school, the Board favored the location near the Governor's Office up at Capitol Hill. However, the site is not one of the lot properties assigned to the Public School System.

Jun. 21, 2000

CDA curbs non-performing loans

The number of loans issued by the Commonwealth Development Authority that are considered non-performing remained at a tolerable level primarily because of recently-enforced measures that reduce average monthly mortgage by borrowers, according to Executive Director Marylou S. Ada. CDA has launched a program aimed at educating its clients on ways to become better borrowers, underscoring the importance of a good credit history in their future loan applications. This has been complemented by a counseling program, also initiated by the development authority, to halt the rising number of delinquent borrowers and non-performing loans which soared to 15 percent during the first quarter of the year. Ms. Ada disclosed non-performing loans are currently concentrated on the real estate sector due to the tremendous increase in vacancy rate of commercial and residential spaces, which has reached 45 percent since the departure of too many Korean businesses in 1998.

OPA faults DOF computation of lottery revenues

The Office of the Public Auditor faulted the computation of government revenues generated from the lottery operations during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1999 when earnings were reportedly understated. According to an audit report released yesterday, government revenues were understated by as much as $25,232 in the first three months of the last fiscal year. Government revenue from lottery operations was reported to have reached only $157,830, and should be increased to $183,062 following the audit report's findings that it was understated. Lottery operators failed to compute lottery revenues based on the terms of agreement of the Memorandum of Understanding reached with the CNMI government in 1994, 1997 and 1998.

Jun. 21,2001

Wider PCB contamination feared

Impending opening of the refuse transfer station may cause wider polychlorinated biphenyl contamination because the project's identified site in Lower Base remains untested for PCB. Tanapag Action Group Chair Juan I. Tenorio said the area, which is also a subject to a legal dispute, was part of the US Military Fuel Farm. This raises concerns on the area being possibly tainted with PCB. Tenorio added the project site was never submitted to any soil and water laboratory test, which doubles the probability of contaminating other Saipan villages with PCB. He said the movement of collected garbage from the Tanapag Village to the transfer station and to the Marpi Sanitary Landfill poses greater health risks among Saipan residents.

Japan group promotes inter-Pacific education

Rich reading resources valued at around $10,000 were turned over to the Northern Marianas College yesterday by a prominent Japan-based organization. Soka Gakkai International, a group active in the promotion of worldwide peace and education, donated to NMC's Learning Resources department 228 books. SGI Vice President Richard Sasaki said the goodwill donation is part of the group's efforts to elevate the level of education in the Pacific Islands. Tonga, Fiji and the College of Micronesia have previously been recipients of the reading materials, most of which are authored by SGI's President, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda.Ikeda's works tackle themes on peace and humanism based on the principles of Buddhism.

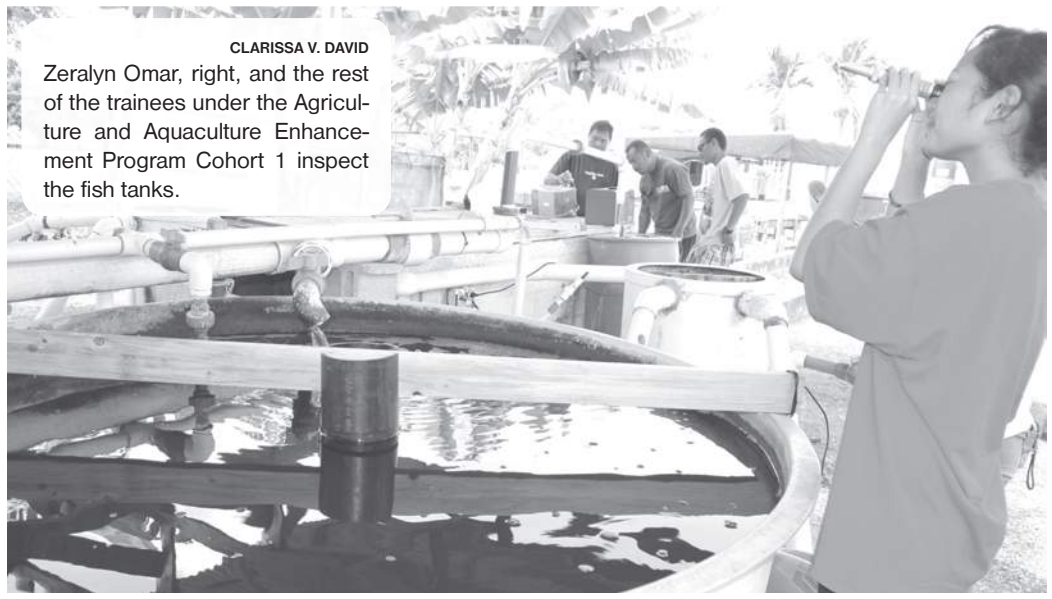
Island Snapshots

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Trainees under the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program Cohort 1 check out fish tanks for fish eggs and small fish at the aquaculture facility of the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension & Education Service in As Terlaje last June 13.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Dan Bigalbal, left, and Jesse Castro use a net to check out fish being grown at the aquaculture facility of the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension & Education Service in As Terlaje last June 13.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Zeralyn Omar, right, and the rest of the trainees under the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program Cohort 1 inspect the fish tanks.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

From left, Jesse Castro, Zeralyn Omar, Juliana Arriola, and Dan Bigalbal learn about aquaculture online through the Aquaculture Training Online Learning or ATOLL, one of the sections of the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program funded by a technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, during a regular session at the Northern Marianas College on June 13.

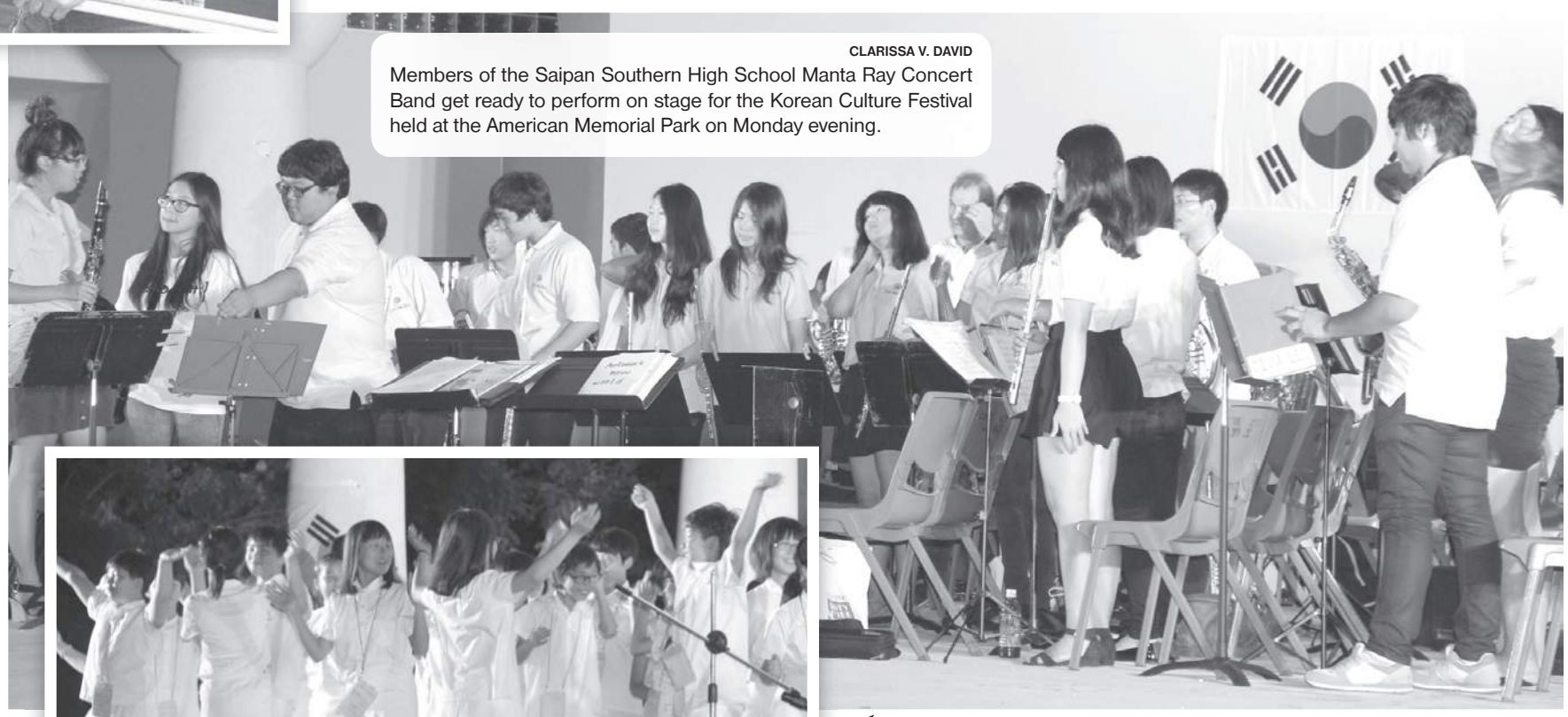
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to *Tatay* Doming Pineda, who is celebrating his 62nd birthday today, June 21, 2012! You are the best example of a perfect human being and an awesome Dad. Thanks for always being there for us. May God continue to shower you with good health and a long life! Birthday wishes and blessings come your way from JP and Jef Pineda.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy first birthday to Margarita Maria Ramon Camacho aka "Popoh," who is celebrating her special day today, June 21! May your day be a fun-filled one! We love you! Hugs and kisses from Mommy and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Concert Band get ready to perform on stage for the Korean Culture Festival held at the American Memorial Park on Monday evening.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Two young members of the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band play their respective instruments while others dance to the music during Monday's fund-raising concert for the benefit of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Concert Band.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

The young members of the visiting Korean music group, the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band, clap their hands and sway to the beat during Monday night's concert at the American Memorial Park.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

A young female member of the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band gives the peace sign while other members around her dance and clap on stage during the Korean Culture Festival on Saipan last June 18 at the American Memorial Park.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Which way for the Egyptian revolution?

Egypt was one of the countries that experienced a revolution during the Arab Spring. In February 2011, longtime Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak gave up power.

Well, it seemed like a revolution at the time. Today, it looks increasingly like a mirage.

For three decades, Egypt—the most populous nation in the Arab world—had been a stable, secular regime in the heart of the world's most dangerous region, at peace with Israel and aligned with the United States. But the Mubarak government was also repressive, corrupt and vulnerable to the demands for change that roiled so many Arab countries last year.

Since Mubarak stepped down, Egypt had been moving toward consolidating a more democratic system. But lately, it has been heading the opposite direction. That became clear as it approached the weekend runoff election for the presidency.

Last week, the Supreme Constitutional Court, dominated by Mubarak-era appointees, upended the transition to popular governance by ruling that last year's parliamentary elections were invalid under the country's constitution—and by dissolving the new body. This came only a day after the current government, which is controlled by the military, imposed martial law, allowing police to arrest and hold people without trial—long a distinguishing feature of the Mubarak dictatorship.

Over the weekend, Egyptians went to the polls to elect their new president. But on Sunday, the generals made it clear that the vote didn't really matter much, because the new leader would have little power. The military announced a new interim constitution that reserves for its leaders the power to pass laws, control the budget and make war. The military leaders also assumed the right to name the people who will draft a permanent constitution.

The newly elected president, in their conception, will be a potted plant. "The new constitutional declaration completed Egypt's official transformation into a military dictatorship," wrote Hossam Bahgat, head of an Egyptian human rights organization.

Authoritarian regimes rarely give up power without a fight. But the army and its allies now will find themselves up against the majority of Egyptians: In the presidential election, voters evidently chose Mohammed Morsi the candidate of the biggest opposition force, the Muslim Brotherhood, over former general and Mubarak protege Ahmed Shafiq.

The Brotherhood had already captured the largest bloc of seats in earlier parliamentary elections. The results posed a serious threat to the generals—which may perfectly explain why the Supreme Constitutional Court, controlled by those Mubarak-era appointees, moved last week to dissolve the new parliament.

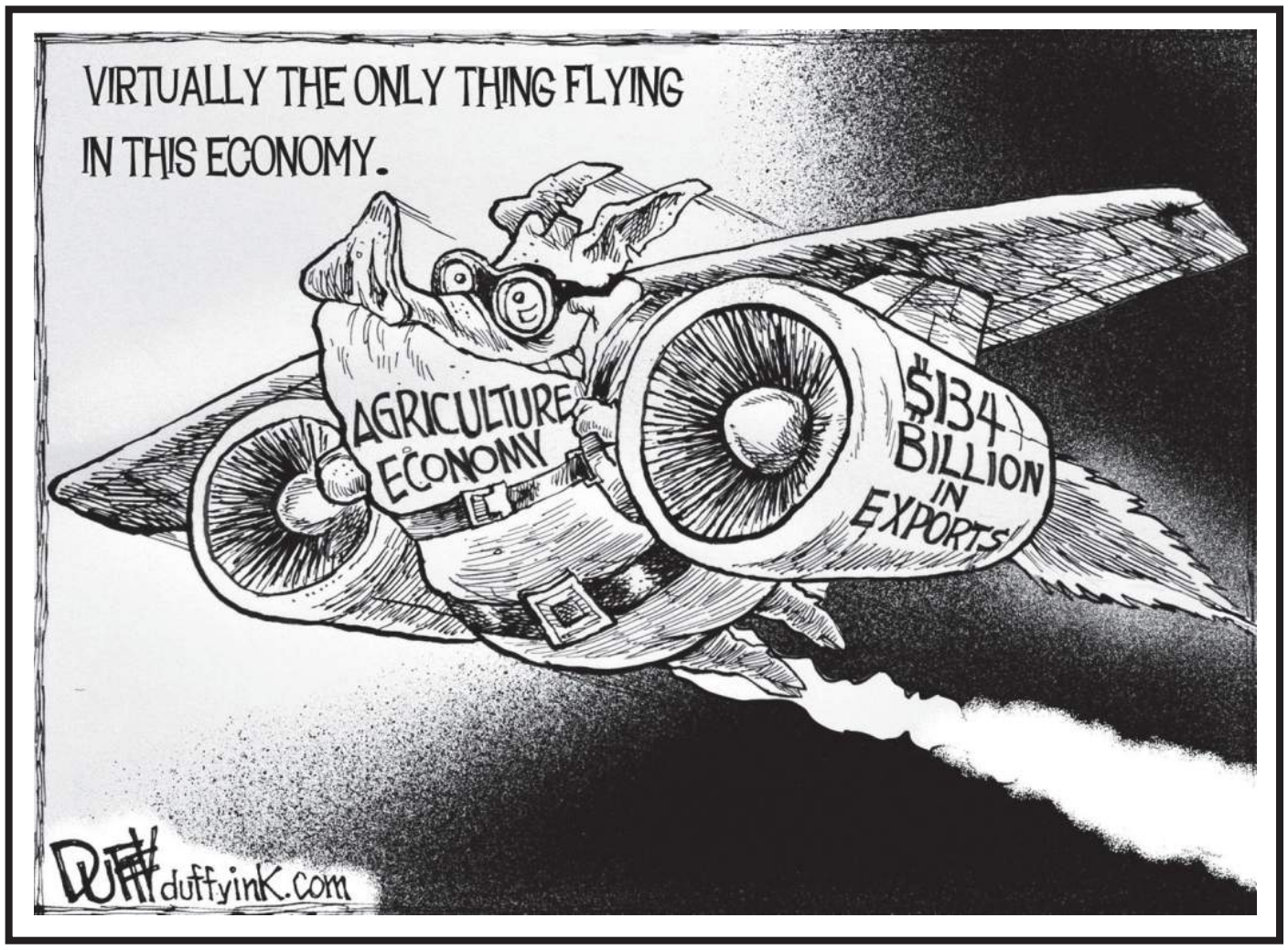
There is good reason for concern, of course, about how the Islamists would implement their religious principles if they were to control the Cairo government. Egyptian liberals fear restrictions on the rights of women and Christians. Americans also worry that a popularly elected government will take a more adversarial posture toward Israel, which has benefited immensely from the peace deal it signed with neighboring Egypt in 1979.

But those worries may be exaggerated. Polls indicate that Egyptians reject Iranian-style theocracy, and most of them probably put a higher priority on economic development than on confrontation with Israel. What's more, gaining office can moderate religious parties, because they have to answer for how they handle the mundane tasks of government.

In the aftermath of the weekend election, a spokesperson for Morsi warned the army against trying to hold onto power, declaring that "we will go back to the streets and escalate things peacefully to the highest possible stage" if necessary. If the generals insist on defying popular sentiment, the country faces the prospect of more mass protests, more upheaval, more uncertainty and more violence.

Egypt was a big part of the Arab Spring. But it may be facing a long, hot summer.

(c)2012 Chicago Tribune



The Rio+20 Earth Summit: An opportunity to set our planet in the right direction

By BRENT BLACKWELDER and RANDALL HAYES
MCT

Brent Blackwelder is president emeritus of Friends of the Earth *and founding chairman of* American Rivers*. Randy Hayes is the founder and former executive director of the* Rainforest Action Network*. They recently formed* Foundation Earth*, an advocacy think tank working for a sustainable economy.*

We are two aging environmentalists with more than 80 years between us spent advocating for a cleaner planet and healthier economy. Even from our well-worn perch, what will be taking place at the Rio+20 Earth Summit in Brazil this week has the makings of a potential game changer.

The summit is the largest ever organized by the United Nations and is expected to draw more than 50,000 people from 190 countries, including 130 world leaders. The last time the United Nations organized a conference of this magnitude was 20 years ago in Rio de Janeiro _ thus the conference nickname, Rio+20. Just as it did two decades ago, the United Nations is bringing together governments, international institutions and other major groups to consider a range of measures that will promote economic stability while restoring the delicate balance of the earth's diverse ecosystems.

If anything, the stakes are even higher today. We've seen the effects of the cumulative impact of over-consumption, over-reliance on fossil fuels and the unending push for material growth at any cost. At the same time, we are facing growing wealth disparity and increasing poverty across the globe. World economic and environmental policy can either come together to support an ecologically sensible future or pull farther apart, threatening the health and well-being of our planet and all living beings for generations to come.

At this critical juncture, Rio+20 offers an important opportunity for action. We should start by recognizing that saving our planet is not only essential _ it is absolutely doable. Our organization, Foundation Earth, reviewed more than a dozen scorecards that grade nations on major issues effecting sustainability. We found examples of countries that are excelling in critical areas:

Germany leads the world with more than 20 percent of its electricity supplied by renewable resources such as wind power and solar. It is on a path to reach 100 percent renewable energy perhaps as soon as 2035, precipitating the shutdown of all the country's nuclear power plants, generating hundreds of thousands of jobs and creating a model for a vibrant green economy.

Ecuador became the first country to include a Rights to Nature provision in its constitution in 2008, giving people the legal authority to enforce the right of ecosystems to "exist, persist, maintain and regenerate its vital cycles."

And the Dominican Republic has strived since 2003 to increase the country's forest cover, which is critical to ecosystem health, water supply and weather stabilization, from 32 percent to nearly 40 percent.

Rio+20 also offers a unique opportunity to learn from past mistakes _ and vow not to repeat them. Notably, Brazil, the summit's host country, is fast becoming a microcosm of what not to do as it follows in the footsteps of other nations whose rise to world economic prominence has been accompanied by an increase in degradation of the planet.

Brazil's leaders seem determined to hinge the nation's economic future on becoming a dominant player in world agriculture. To that end the country is poised to sacrifice the Amazon rainforest, the world's greatest, through extensive industrial agricultural expansion of food and biofuel crops and massive dam building. The result will be catastrophic weather disruption in Latin America where the Amazon acts as its own rain-making machine and weather regulator.

In January Brazil's new president Dilma Rousseff expedited plans for 20 major dams in the Amazon by removing protection of natural areas. The huge Belo Monte Dam will displace more than 20,000 indigenous people, inundate forests, ruin fisheries and release massive amounts of greenhouse gases. Brazil has now graduated to second place as the world's largest destroyer of rivers, after China.

The summit offers Brazil's leaders the perfect opportunity to reverse course on recent actions to weaken the country's Forest Code, which, among other things, gave landowners the right to significantly decrease rainforest preservation.

Again, this is not an insurmountable task. The United States, once the world's greatest river destroyer, is now a global leader in restoring free-flowing rivers. Since 1970 more than 250 rivers in the United States have been put off limits to damming and diversion and more than 1,000 dams have been removed to restore fisheries and water quality.

Of course, all these measures are simply pieces of a larger puzzle. Taken together they have the potential to spur critical action toward the creation of a global green economy. The first Rio summit in 1992 led to the implementation of the "Kyoto Protocol" on limiting greenhouse gases, a measure that has unfortunately not lived up to its initial promise. Let's not squander the opportunity this time to ensure that 20 years from now our planet will be headed in the right direction and that Rio+20 will be a model of collective resolve in reaching our ultimate goal—an environmentally and economically sensible future.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Drones

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

A person who is lazy, aka, loafer, parasite, slug, and of course, the queen bee's handy buzzer, has been our definition of the word "drone." Since we had forsaken the starched khaki uniform after ROTC in College, we had not bothered to keep up with the terminologies casually used in military discourse. "Drone" is one of 'em terms that goes beyond the apiary!

The drone in apiculture (bee land) has two functions in relation to the queen bee. It mates with the queen bee and enables the creation of multi-million sperms that ensures apiary population, as well as to fertilize the queen bee's eggs. But as their name has since come to imply, they are robotic and monotonous. And they produce no honey! The word also applies to certain male ants and wasps. (No comment on WASPs.)

Now I pay a little attention to terms my students' use, for in the alleged boring ambience of university life where often, adults are treated like children with nary a habit for creativity, motivity, and innovation, many act like passive receptacles waiting to be instructed on what to do. The frequency of escape to computer games for the males, and compulsive shopping for the females, is high.

The computer games students describe when asked about their day involve electronic gadgetries and military planes. One told of his excitement of having a captured P51 Mustang outmaneuver an F-86 Sabre over the Korean skies!

The robotic actions of the bored females in heading to the new malls, unaffordable to many, are sporting enough to enjoy the trying and fitting of clothes and accessories involved. In fact, the purchase, if one is made, becomes anticlimactic. The excitement of shopping and price bargaining are what make the juices flow.

We have also become accustomed to news of military drones used in going after the leadership of Al-Qaeda, and/or the Taliban. The political repercussions of UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) going off target in Afghanistan and Pakistan have been enormous. The news that Iran and Venezuela are building drones of their own has shaken the cowboy boots of some in the Pentagon, making them more militant.

It's the military drones that caught our attention this week. First, there was that crash of the secret X-47B UCAV in Maryland (captured only in tarmac tarp-covered display by weather satellites), and then the sudden appearance of a truck-pulled UFO widely reported to have appeared in the Washington DC's beltway. Having lived just a golf whack off I-495 by the 9-hole Jefferson Links in Falls Church, VA, I can visualize what kind of a traffic jam the UCAV might have caused in the Capital's suburbia.

Being in an aerospace university in China, we see the remote controlled miniature aerials flying in the field all the time. But like the powder (mix of sulfur, charcoal, and saltpeter) that Chinese searchers of elixir for immortality discovered long ago, which became the pyrotechnic composition in fireworks (chemical explosives to the Arab world, India, and Europe), China's drones are used for weather forecasting and forest fire mitigation!

"Oh, yeah," the skeptics will say. Well, yes, yah! Genghis Khan had his horse-riding Mongolian archers, Japan's Shogun had his two-sword Samurai turned Ronin, the Brits their musketeers, modern Taipan their Tong bullies, Arizona its 9mms, but China Shaolin monks work their Kung Fu as hand combat against the knife. China's Peoples Liberation Army organizes best when assisting disasters than when launching an attack on cousins across the Taiwan Straits.

In fact, one of PLA's heralded heroes is a 22-year old orphaned soldier named Lei Feng who died from a fallen telephone pole when struck by a backing truck he was guiding. Not a really heroic exit. No matter. He is an exemplar by virtue of how he lived his life rather than whether he excelled in war. Lei Feng, the quintessential 'volunteer' died in Fushun not too far from here in Shenyang.

Recently, menial worker Guo Ming Yi, a poor but charismatic Lei Feng devotee, came to speak to university students. The Fushun resident heads a voluntary group that assists folks in dire need, but more importantly, his group promotes a life style of sharing in as simple as passing without much fanfare one's extra bottle of water in the bus on a hot summer day if one is in need. His message that there is more to life than making a lot of renminbi was timely, though not as widely heeded as his superstar stature attracted the flash of female students' cameras.

Drones. They are the robots of warfare. We thought our young 'uns creativity is busy tinkering with digitized butlers for mama's kitchen! Not at Lockheed SkunkWorks!

The regular fireworks in China are magnificent from my 11th floor window. Guns are routinely rounded up; it is illegal to own one. The normal catch consists of old rifles from the civil war, not the Magnum9 favorite of neighboring SoKor and Japan cities, and faraway New Jersey shores.

This week, China announced that the U.S. Naval fleet's aggressive behavior and flagrant war-mongering pronouncements in the Western Pacific will be matched by China's Naval power. Let us hope encounters, if any, will be limited to drones.

DIVORCING PAKISTAN

Simply put, the interests of Washington and Islamabad do not align

By ANDREW J. BACEVICH
Los Angeles Times

Andrew J. Bacevich is professor of history and international relations at Boston University. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

The history of U.S.-Pakistani relations is one of wild swings between feigned friendship and ill-disguised mistrust. When the United States needs Pakistan, Washington showers Islamabad with money, weapons and expressions of high esteem. Once the need wanes, the gratuities cease, often with brutal abruptness. Instead of largesse, Pakistan gets lectures, with the instruction seldom well received.

The events of 9/11inaugurated the relationship's most recent period of contrived warmth. Proximity to Afghanistan transformed Pakistan overnight from a pariah—the planet's leading proliferator of nuclear weapons technology—into a key partner in the global war on terrorism. Prior to 9/11, U.S. officials disdained President Pervez Musharraf as the latest in a long line of Pakistani generals to seize power through a coup. After 9/11, President George W. Bush declared Musharraf a "visionary" leading his country toward the bright uplands of freedom.

But seldom has a marriage of convenience produced greater inconvenience and consternation for the parties involved. Simply put, U.S. and Pakistani interests do not align. Worse, neither do our preferred forms of paranoia. Pakistanis don't worry about Islamists taking over the world. Americans are untroubled by the prospect of India emerging as a power of the first rank.

The United States stayed in this unhappy marriage for the last decade in large part because Pakistan provided the transit route for supplies sustaining NATO's ongoing war in landlocked Afghanistan. In addition to exacting exorbitant charges for this use of its territory, Pakistan has closed that route whenever it wishes to make a point. No more: A recently negotiated agreement with several former-Soviet Central Asian republics creates alternatives, removing Pakistan's grip on NATO's logistical windpipe.

The Obama administration now seems ready to declare this troubled union (once again) defunct. With Pakistan no longer quite so crucial in an Afghan context, and still unable to explain how Osama bin Laden found sanctuary on Pakistani soil, evidence that this erstwhile U.S. ally remains in cahoots with various and sundry terrorist organizations has become intolerable. During a recent visit to India, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta publicly stated that U.S. leaders were "reaching the limits of our patience" with Pakistan.

As with most divorces, the proceedings promise to be ugly. Already, the U.S. is escalating its campaign of missile attacks against "militants" on Pakistani soil. U.S. officials dismiss complaints that this infringes on Pakistan's national sovereignty. "This is about our sovereignty as well," Panetta has explained, thereby redefining the term to grant the United States the prerogative of doing whatever it wants and can get away with.

Yet there is a back story to the crumbling relationship that goes beyond U.S. frustration with Pakistani double-dealing (and Pakistani anger over American highhandedness). A larger reorientation of U.S. policy is underway. Occurring in two spheres _ the Greater Middle East and East Asia _ that reorientation reduces Pakistan in Washington's eyes to the status of strategic afterthought.

In the Greater Middle East _ the geographic expanse in which the global war on terrorism has been largely waged _ the Obama administration has now abandoned any pretense of liberating or pacifying or dominating the Islamic world. Through a campaign of targeted assassination (supplemented in the case of Iran with cyber attacks) the aim is now merely to keep adversaries off-balance in a never-ending game of whack-a-mole. In that context, Pakistan serves chiefly as a target-rich environment.

In East Asia, the Obama administration touts its proposed strategic "pivot" as the emerging centerpiece of U.S. national security policy. In Washington, however, "pivot" is a code word, translated by those in the know as "containing China." The imperative of thwarting China's perceived (but as yet indecipherable and perhaps undetermined) ambitions elevates the importance of India. In the eyes of aspiring Kissingers, an India aligned with the United States will check Chinese power just as aligning China with the United States once served to check Soviet power. Here too the effect is necessarily to render Pakistan, which views India as its mortal enemy, redundant.

Yet while a certain logic informs the coming U.S. abandonment of Pakistan, there are massive risks as well.

Pakistan is the most dangerous country in the world. (Go ahead: Plug that sentence into your search engine.) Mired in poverty, burdened with a dysfunctional government and weak institutions, dominated by deeply fearful military and intelligence establishments that have little regard for civilian control or democratic practice, it possesses one trump card: a formidable nuclear arsenal. A potential willingness to use that arsenal is what ultimately makes Pakistan so dangerous—and should give U.S. policymakers pause before they give that country the back of their hand, as the United States has done so many times before.

To the extent that foreign policy ends up figuring in the upcoming presidential election, Iran's putative nuclear weapons program will probably attract some attention. OK, but that's a potential bomb, not a real one. The bomb that will keep the next president up late is not the one that Iran may be building but the one that Pakistan already holds in readiness to use.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saipan, I love you

Dear Saipan: Please make it stop. On behalf of myself and my brothers and sisters who are out here in Hawaii and scattered throughout the world, we ask that you take it easy on us.

We only leave the island just so we can go and better ourselves to come back and better you. I know, I know it's not your fault but I just cannot take this anymore. I am tired of fighting and hearing people complain and reading the newspaper! I read headlines that worry me that other people in most of my classes don't really worry about normally. I come on Facebook and see people complaining about it. I call back home and hear people complain more. I know that this is such a bad time right now, which is why I'm taking my time to write this piece out, but we are all honestly am trying to bear with it.

If we were all back home right now, I'm sure we'd be able to do something, but we're not. It makes us all feel helpless.... and I'm sorry. I have other appointments, classes, papers, work, and everything else to focus on. What am I to do? People are talking about speaking out but I am so tired of speaking out and not being heard. I just ask that you take it easy on me for three semesters because I just want to get through all this. I want to graduate and I want to get on with school.

Can you please just unburden all of us poor college students just this once? I don't mean to sound like a spoiled brat and I don't mean to sound unpatriotic but Saipan, please. Just think of us students out here who would give anything to go back home and swim out at Obyan or Wing Beach and sip on HI-C and eat all the red rice and barbecue... We want to go home. but no one is giving us the incentive to do it! Give us a reason to come back home (sigh).

I just want to be able to read something nice in the *Saipan Tribune* and *Marianas Variety* for a change. I want to be able to ease my mind and when I want to explain about how things work in Saipan to my friends (or class) here, I don't want to be thinking "how do I go about this without mentioning politics?" I want to be able to think about the beaches, food, and family when I think about home not budget cuts and how our economy is dwindling.

It's so sad and depressing. Anyway, just try to tone it down this time... Its midterms and I have to study. But I know one thing... I'll never abandon the likes of you. Even when times get rough and people are being thrown in and out of office... I'll always stand by you 'cause you are the only home I've ever known. So with that, just give me some weeks to recover. I know it will seem like I'm not going to be here supporting my other brothers and sisters who are willing to speak out and stand up for what we believe in or like and comment everyone's angry statuses but please be aware that I'm still with you in heart and mind. You will always be on my mind.

Oceana Pia Aldan
Honolulu, Hawaii

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

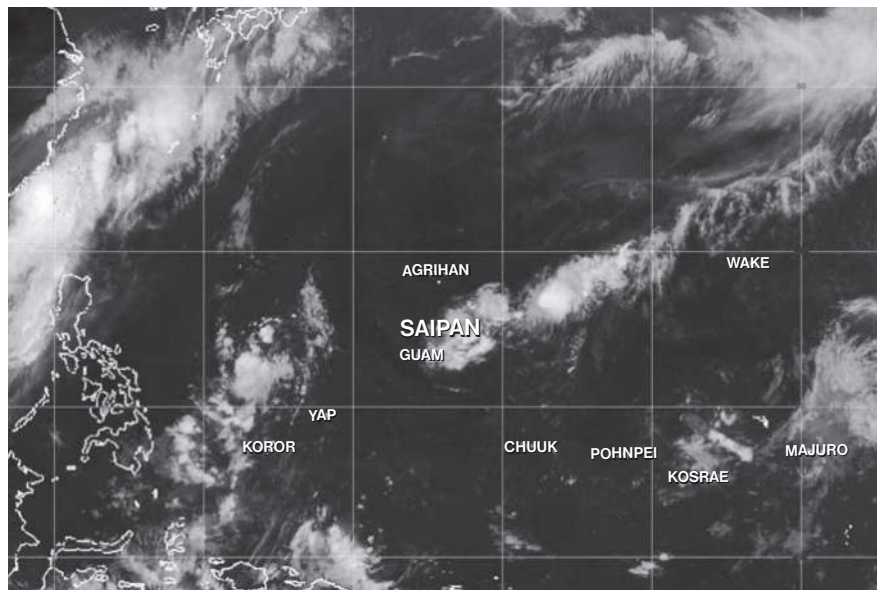
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲92	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲61	▼52
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲92	▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲84	▼73
London	Showers	▲68	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲91	▼80
Melbourne	Rain	▲51	▼44
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲96	▼76
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲80	▼70
Paris	Showers	▲74	▼59
Pusan	Showers	▲74	▼66
Rome	Sunny	▲91	▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲80	▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼67
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼69
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲98	▼79

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An elongated trough runs northeastward from Guam and Rota to east of Wake Island to beyond 25N169E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of the trough axis from 14N145E to 22N164E. A broad circulation centered southwest of Koror at about 6N132E is associated with a surface trough that runs northeastward from the circulation to 13N136E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found from west of Koror to north of Koror within 100 miles of a line from 8N131E to 13N135E. Similar weather is found between the equator and 2N from 137E to 140E. A surface trough east of Majuro runs northwestward from 2N180 to 9N177E. The trough is interacting with a trade-wind convergence zone to produce scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Majuro between 7N and 12N from 170E to 179E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
8:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
11:07 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:57 AM	8:04 PM
Friday	7:49 AM	8:49 PM
Saturday	8:41 AM	9:32 PM
Sunday	9:34 AM	10:13 PM
Monday	20:26 AM	10:55 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES			
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

World leaders weigh stimulus vs austerity at G-20

LOS CABOS, Mexico (AP)—With major European economies on the brink of collapse, leaders concluding an annual Group of 20 meeting sought Tuesday to reassure the world that they would find a way to put out the debt-fueled economic wildfire that has threatened banks, wiped out jobs and toppled governments across the continent.

But the presidents and prime ministers gathered in this seaside resort seemed content to delay any major decisions for a while longer, releasing only a general statement that stopped short of committing any nations to greater spending unless conditions worsen and urging fiscal responsibility.

■■■

LOS CABOS, Mexico (AP)—President Barack Obama voiced confidence Tuesday in Europe's ability to "break the fever" of its raging debt crisis as he sought to calm both global financial markets and the election-year worries of voters at home.

Obama, speaking at the close of the Group of 20 economic summit, said Europe's leaders showed a "heightened sense of urgency" during two days of talks in this Mexican resort. The president maintained that Europe had the capacity to solve the crisis on its own, indicating the U.S., still battling its own economic woes, would not be offering any financial pledges to help its international partners.

"Even if they cannot achieve all of it in one fell swoop, I think if people have a sense of where they are going that can provide confidence and break the fever," Obama said in a news conference that brought to a close his last foreign trip before the November election.

■■■

For months, governments and economists have weighed two different paths to ease the financial crisis: spending more to try to stimulate growth or slashing budgets. European leaders headed home without announcing any significant agreements, and they aimed to meet again later this month in Brussels, with a goal of adopting a more detailed plan.

Still, the battle lines in the stimulus-versus-austerity debate were clearly drawn among the 24 heads of state gathered in a heavily guarded convention hall lined by a moat. The conservative leaders of the United Kingdom, South Korea and Germany came out decisively for austerity, warning that budget cuts were crucial to restoring fiscal order and worldwide confidence.

"The countries in crisis will have to find measures that might be painful and politically unpopular in the short term, but nonetheless they must pursue this path," South Korean President Lee Myung-bak said Monday.

On the other side were left-leaning governments such as those in Argentina, Brazil and France that have denounced the German-imposed austerity plan for struggling countries such as Spain and Greece and pushed for more stimulus spending.

President Barack Obama said European leaders "grasp the seriousness" of their debt crisis and are moving with a "heightened sense of urgency" to find a solution.

After the summit, Obama said the economic problems in Europe won't be solved by the G-20 or the United States, but by European nations. He said he was confident they could do that, but acknowledged the difficulty of getting all the separate legislatures to agree.

That the leaders adopted only some general policies is typical of G-20 declarations, said Jacob Kirkegaard, a research fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics.

"On the big issue of the hour, of weeks and months, the G-20 communique is not going to make a big difference," Kirkegaard said. "The communique will repeat the mantra about strong, balanced, global growth. With each member state free to do whatever they want, that's the way to paper over those differences."

Indeed, the statement's reassuring words failed to sooth troubled world stock markets, which remained mixed and nervous Tuesday.

Germany must shoulder a large share of the contributions to bail out economically weaker European countries that overspent for years. In exchange, Germany has been insisting on steep cutbacks from aid recipients such as Greece.

Those cutbacks have led to dramatic economic hardship for voters in Greece and other countries. A growing number of European countries have been advocating spending and growth, not austerity, and the G-20 statement made limited mention of such a possibility.

"We are united in our resolve to promote growth and jobs," the document said. "Strong sustainable and balanced growth remains the top priority of the G20, as it leads to higher job creation and increases the welfare of people across the world."

The statement threw support specifically behind greater government spending in countries that can afford it, if conditions get significantly worse. Countries with "sufficient fiscal space stand ready to coordinate and implement discretionary fiscal actions to support domestic demand."

The plan also hinted at flexibility by asking that governments "take into account evolving economic conditions," which could open the way for more latitude in troubled countries such as Greece.

Survey: Asian millionaires outnumber N.America's

HONG KONG (AP)—Asia's millionaires outnumbered North America's for the first time last year even as the world's wealthy saw their fortunes decline amid turbulent financial markets, a new survey says.

The Asia-Pacific region was home to 3.37 million high net-worth individuals, who are defined as having at least $1 million to invest, according to the report by Capgemini and Royal Bank of Canada released Monday.

Their numbers were up 1.6 percent from the year before, although their combined wealth shrank 1.1 percent to $10.7 trillion.

North Americans still held the biggest share of world wealth at $11.4 trillion, even though it was down 2.3 percent. But the continent's wealthy population fell to second place as their numbers dipped 1.1 percent to 3.35 million.

Europe, which was overtaken by Asia in 2009, came third with 3.17 millionaires worth $10.1 trillion.

Overall, the combined wealth of the world's 11 million rich declined 1.7 percent in 2011 to $42 trillion. The contraction came as financial markets grew more volatile over widespread concerns about the European sovereign debt crisis.

Markets were also unsettled by a downgrade of the U.S. sovereign credit rating and unrest in Arab countries that kept oil prices high. In Asia, rising inflation, shrinking exports and natural disasters such as Japan's devastating tsunami added to market turbulence.

The world's superrich, defined as worth $30 million or more, took the biggest hit. Globally, their ranks dropped 2.5 percent to 100,000 and their combined fortunes fell about 5 percent.

The ultrawealthy are more likely to invest their money in higher risk assets such as hedge funds, private equity or commercial real estate.

While returns can be greater, if markets turn sour such investments are also harder to unload for a "palatable price in a viable time frame," so instead they were stuck in superrich investors' portfolios, where they quickly lost value last year, the report said.

Nation

Sandusky wife defends his contact with young boys

BELLEFONTE, Pa. (AP)—Jerry Sandusky's wife smiled as she took the witness stand on Tuesday to defend him against charges he sexually abused boys in their home and on Penn State's campus, and jurors also heard police investigators contradict themselves and psychological experts duel over evaluations of the defendant.

AP

Dorothy Sandusky, wife of former Penn State University assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky, arrives at the Centre County Courthouse in Bellefonte, Pa., Tuesday, June 19, 2012.

Dottie Sandusky said she remembered most but not all of the eight men who have accused her husband of abusing them as children. She told jurors she did not see him have inappropriate contact with them over the years they visited the couple's home or traveled with them.

In a calm voice during an hour of testimony, she described her 45-year marriage to the former Penn State assistant football coach, but lead prosecutor Joe McGettigan appeared to stump her when he asked why the men might lie in making the accusations.

"I don't know what it would be for," she said, with a slight shake of her head.

A large portion of the day's testimony, which included 11 more character witnesses, consisted of a defense psychologist, Elliott Atkins, who told jurors he believes Jerry Sandusky has a personality disorder that might explain letters addressed to one of his accusers, while prosecutors countered with psychiatrist Dr. John Sebastian O'Brien II, who said that was not the case but that he might suffer from some other problem, possibly psychosexual disorder with a focus on pre-adolescents.

Judge John Cleland told jurors the case remains on track for defense testimony to likely conclude Wednesday morning, closing statements Thursday morning and deliberations to begin that afternoon. It remained unclear whether Sandusky will take the stand in his own defense.

Romney says Rubio being 'thoroughly vetted'

HOLLAND, Mich. (AP)—Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney said Tuesday that his campaign is "thoroughly vetting" Marco Rubio as it searches for a running mate despite reports that the Florida senator is not being considered.

ABC News and The Washington Post cited unnamed advisers in reporting that Rubio, R-Fla., wasn't on the short list for the No. 2 spot on the GOP ticket.

"I can't imagine who such people are, but I can tell you this: They know nothing about the vice presidential selection or evaluation process," Romney told reporters Tuesday evening outside a Michigan ice cream shop. "The story was entirely false. Marco Rubio is being thoroughly vetted as part of our process."

Earlier in the day, Romney had refused to comment on reports that Rubio, a rising star in Republican politics, wasn't under consideration as a potential running mate.

The presumptive GOP nominee initially told Fox News only that "a number of people are being vetted" but that only two people—he and a senior adviser—know who's on the list. He repeated that statement Tuesday evening but clarified Rubio's status as a potential vice presidential pick.

The statement was an unusual departure from the secrecy that has surrounded Romney's process in selecting a running mate. But it speaks, in part, to Rubio's political influence among the Republican base and Hispanic voters.

Two Romney representatives would not say if or when Rubio had submitted paperwork for the vetting process.

The unanswered question was among several that lingered Tuesday as Romney's campaign sought to counter media reports suggesting that Romney had bypassed one of the most popular Hispanic leaders serving in elected office.

Less than a week ago, President Barack Obama won praise from Hispanic groups for announcing a plan allowing some young illegal immigrants to stay in the United States legally. Polls suggest that Hispanics overwhelmingly support Obama, but Romney and the GOP have been working to broaden their appeal among the growing demographic.

Epic clash nearing over tax boosts, spending cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—A budget showdown for the ages could begin after this year's election and stretch well into 2013—despite the threat that an impending half-trillion-dollar avalanche of tax increases and spending cuts might rekindle a national recession.

The reason: an unprecedented collision of high-stakes fiscal decisions, coming at a time of intense partisanship, a teetering economy, record federal deficits and, possibly, a new president.

Campaigning for the White House and Congress will make substantive action all but impossible before the elections. And agreement may be nearly as tough during a post-election, lame duck session in November and December, barring a European financial meltdown or Middle East oil supply crisis that demands an immediate response by lawmakers.

"I don't know how a Congress that can't agree on anything in two years is all of a sudden going to come together with the administration in the last 45 days of the year to solve the problem," said Rep. Steven LaTourette, R-Ohio.

No one can confidently predict the outcome of the battle over what many are calling the "fiscal cliff." Much depends on whether President Barack Obama defeats Republican challenger Mitt Romney in November and which party controls Congress.

If Romney wins, Republicans will want to delay decisions until he takes office in January. In that case, a lame duck session would focus on postponing the spending cuts and extending current tax rates for six months to a year. If Obama is re-elected, the fight could easily stretch into 2013 due to the complex issues and the parties' deep differences.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY 2012 Summer Youth Employment Training Program Qualifiers

ALL QUALIFIERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE WORK READINESS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, July 4 is an observed Holiday. ALL WIA Trainees DO NOT work on this day.

SAIPAN QUALIFIERS

1st PHASE Work Schedule*: Monday, July 2-Monday July 23, 2012

	PARTICIPANT	POSITION	PLACEMENT	WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
1	AGUILAR, Kimiko Kristie Ann C.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Administration	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
2	AGUITO, Gerald Jesse M. Jr.	Stocker	Joeten-Kagman Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
3	AGTON, Thelisa Rosarita T.	Office Assistant	CPA-Lease/Compliance & HR	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
4	AGTON, Mercelia Agnes T.	Clerical	DPS-Human Resources	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
5	ALAZAR, Sharmaine Rose M.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
6	ALDAN, Liyan Yushin L.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
7	ALDAN, Michael C.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
8	ALOMIA, Laisiis D.L Jr.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
9	AMANDES, Clarence Lee	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
10	AMANDES, Malcolm D.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Gualo Rai	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
11	ANDY, Myron Jordan	Office Clerk	NMHC-Fiscal Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
12	ANUNCIACION, Christine L.	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
13	ARRIOLA, San Juan Peter S.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
14	BABAUTA, Ivilynn J.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
15	BABAUTA, Crystal Kay B.	Sales Representative	Joeten-All Star	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
16	BABAUTA, Dusery Dionne L.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
17	BABAUTA, Daviay J.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
18	BABAUTA, Jacob R.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Child Care Development Fund Program	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
19	BABAUTA, Joana B.	Bagger	Joeten-Hafa Adai Shopping Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
20	BABAUTA, Versalli R.	Parole Officer Aide	Board of Parole	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
21	BAUTISTA, Bradley Roy I.	Guest Service Officer-Bell Service	Hyatt Regency Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
22	BELI, Belmina	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
23	BENSON, Steven G.	Auto Mechanic Helper	Torres Refrigeration, Inc	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
24	BER ATAN, Referson	Office Clerk	NMHC-Mortgage & Credit Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
25	BIADO, Carizza Camille D.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Procurement Division Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
26	BLEWETT, Kaylani Matricia L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Susupe)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
27	BORJA, Sarah Lynn S.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
28	BORJA, Stanely S.	Human Resource Clerk	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
29	Cabaohas, Frank A.	Office Assistant	CPA-Administration	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
30	CABRERA, Annalyn Jovannah	Youth Congress Coordinator	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
31	CABRERA, Brandon Jon E.	Terminal Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
32	CABRERA, Jewels Malia A.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Procurement Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
33	CABRERA, Sherylyn E.	Clerical Trainee	Pacific Trading Company	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
34	CALAGE, Billy Jose P.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
35	CALAGE, Reence Jefferson S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
36	CAMACHO, Brittney Jean O.	Administrative Assistant	DOF-Division of Customs Services (Seaport)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
37	CAMACHO, Ladale A.	Administrative Assistant (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
38	CASTRO, Bradley Jon	Engineering Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
39	CASTRO, Jacqueline Rose	Accounting Clerk	Pacific Trading Company	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
40	CASTRO, Michael Jordan	F&B Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
41	CELIS, Deyree Jeen C.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Gualo Rai)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
42	CHUNOR, Samantha E.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
43	CHOITER, Kayleen	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
44	CRUZ, Ignacia Lulu M.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
45	CUCAL, Husky V.D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
46	CUCAL, Young Arui D.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
47	CURAMAI, Mario R.	Terminal Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
48	DANFORD, Esperanza P.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
49	DAO, Kishin Edyan R.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
50	DAO, Handis I.	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA (CNMI Forestry)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
51	DELOS SANTOS, Jerry Robert M.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
52	DEMAPAN, Anna Rit A.	Clerk	IT&E-Sales & Marketing (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
53	DEMAPAN, Arnold Sherman A.	CADD Work/Construction Inspector Trainee	Pangelinan & Associates	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
54	DEMAPAN, Gus Frederick A.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
55	DEMAPAN, Klifford Bernard A.	IT Trainee	IT&E-Information Technology Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
56	DEPICH, Jeanyn	Sales Merchandiser	Transpacific International Inc.-Coca Cola	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
57	DIONISIO, Julie Ann Marie	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
58	DIONISIO, Keoloni Kristine	Office Clerk	NMHC-Planner/Writer Section	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
59	ESEFOU, Albert S.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
60	ESNER, Keri Rose C.	Customs Trainee	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
61	ESNER, Kerin C. Jr.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
62	ESNER, Kinilon Jiminon C.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
63	ESNER, KR E.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware-San Vicente	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
64	EUBANKS, Travis Ikika I. R.	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Susupe	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
65	EUBANKS, Tyler Jae	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware-San Vicente	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
66	FAISAO, Jenniven Kristie C.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
67	FERNANDEZ, Merly Ann	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
68	GILNFRAD, Jamanel V.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
69	GILNFRAD, Joseph Saleq V.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
70	HOSSAIN, Mohammed Ali	Stocker	Joeten-Ace Hardware Susupe	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
71	HOSSAIN, Mohammed Omar	Butcher Trainee	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
72	IGNOMAR, Leony Jane	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
73	IGNOMAR, Shawn Ray	Stocker	Joeten-Kagman Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
74	ILO, Lilswaar Myoco	Enforcement & Compliance Trainee	Department of Commerce-Enforcement & Compliance	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
75	ILO, Ranalyn C.	Office Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
76	JOHN, Alisi	Office Clerk	DPS-Human Resources	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
77	JONES, Janet L.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
78	JONES, Jessilyn L.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
79	KAIPAT, Carmelita Lupe	Enforcement & Compliance Trainee	Department of Commerce-Enforcement & Compliance	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
80	KAIPAT, Franklin Daniel	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
81	KAIPAT, Lilagh R.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
82	KEJU, Peterson J.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Communications Office	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
83	KENIO, Ita	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
84	LACANDAZO, Erene Rose S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
85	LACAY, Sherlyn D.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
86	LIZAMA, Austin John K.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
87	LIZAMA, Dorothea Carmen D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
88	LIZAMA, Duaneralyn Loraine D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
89	LIZAMA, Franklin K.	Office Clerk	DPS-Traffic Section	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
90	LIZAMA, Jeffrey John C.	Customs Trainee (CK Postal)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
91	LIZAMA, Jose C. Jr.	Environmental Trainee	DEQ-Wastewater Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
92	MAGDIWA, John Jacob S.	House Legislative Assistant	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
93	MANAHANE, Marvin H. Jr.	F&B Trainee	Hyatt Regency Saipan	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
94	MARAS, Rusko RJ E.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
95	MARAUTA, Roman John C.	Procurement Specialist	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
96	MORALES, Stephanie Natasha C.	Administrative Assistant	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
97	MOSES, Cassandra	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
98	MUNA, Steviglyn Germel I.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
99	NARTIN, Narphin M.	Warehouseman	Joeten-Susupe Distribution Center	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
100	NEKAIFES, Andy SP.	Produce Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
101	NORIETH, Agatha Elfatine W.	Office Assistant	DPL-Planning Division	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
102	NORITA, Catrina K.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
103	NORITA, Dennis N.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
104	NORITA, Junela N.	Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
105	NORITA, Rose Marie N.	Customer Service Clerk	IT&E-Customer Service Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
106	OLOPAI, Jiovanni Lars	IT Trainee	IT&E-Information Technology Department (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
107	OLOPAI, Veralyn Rose W.	Senate Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
108	PANGELINAN, Nathaniel Anthony	Fast Food Worker	Transpacific International Inc.-Subway/Scoops	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
109	PETER, Murrey E.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
110	PETER, Mfred F.	Clerk	IT&E-Sales & Marketing (Chalan Laulau)	8-12noon Monday, June 25, 2012 American Memorial Park
111	PHILLIP, Lovene R.	Receptionist	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
112	PISEK, Kirie S.	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
113	QUICHOCHO, Norman A.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
114	QUITUGUA, Shiela Marie F.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
115	RAMANGMOI , Stacy Manique A.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
116	RENGIIL, Maryjane Camillajean R.	Administrative Assistant	Eco Island Development	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
117	REYES, Antonio S.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
118	REYES, Larissa Marie M.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
119	REYES, Nadalene Enel D.	Office Clerk	Board of Parole	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
120	REYES, Suzie I.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
121	RIOS, Este'ana A.	Administrative Assistant	DOF-Division of Customs Services (Seaport)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
122	RIOS, Haley Jessophie A.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
123	RIOS, Jack Daniel A.	Warehouseman	Pacific Trading Company	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
124	RIOS, Moses Angel A. Jr.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
125	RIOS, Rinmono Ambrosio A.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
126	SABLAN, Clara Jolee P.	Administrative Support Assistant	CUC-Executive Director Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
127	SABLAN, Francine B.	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
128	SABLAN, Frankie E.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
129	SABLAN, Julian S.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
130	SALAZAR, Dane R.	Dispatcher	DPS-Police Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
131	SAN NICOLAS, Julie May M.	Web Content Editor	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
132	SANCHEZ, Emy Lyn T.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
133	SANCHEZ, Rodalene Carmen G.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
134	SANTOS, Angel T.	Customs Trainee (Seaport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
135	SANTOS, Grace Marie	Administrative Support Assistant	IT&E-Engineering & Plant Technical Services Department	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
136	SANTOS, Jess T.	F&B Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
137	SANTOS, Louna Katy	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
138	SARALU, Adela Francis Ignacia S.N.	Clerk	IT&E-Human Resources (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
139	SARALU, Jackylynn S.N.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
140	SATUR, Jackileen L.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
141	SATUR, Mariano Junian L.	Parole Officer Aide	Board of Parole	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
142	SHOKING, Josnen S.	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
143	SIMINA, Justin	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
144	SOLOMON, Ehrick C.	Dispatcher	DPS-Fire Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
145	SOLOMON, Elemen C. Jr.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
146	SUDA, Corina Mae	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
147	TAITINGFONG, Shawn Jacob	Surveyor Trainee	DPL-Planning Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
148	TAMAN, Joseph L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-Boardertine	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
149	TAMAN, Lupe Inez L.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Administration	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
150	TAMAN, Randy S. Jr.	Material Clerk	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
151	TAMMY, Este	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Garapan)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
152	TAULE, Leolani Enege O.	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
153	TENORIO, Korey Samson P.	Administrative Assistant	DPW-Technical Services Division (Capitol Hill)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
154	TERLAJE, Regina Judith B.	Administrative Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Distribution Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
155	TIPINGENI, Malcar Jr.	Community Worker	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
156	TORRES, Anthony Jacob P. Jr.	Library Assistant	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
157	TORRES, Julie Ann	Office Clerk	Department of Commerce-Banking Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
158	TORRES, Ruth Ann P.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
159	TUDELA, Pedro Joaquin	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA(CNMI Forestry	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
160	TUMADA, April Melanie C.	Office Clerk	Board of Professional Licensing/HealthCare Professional Licensing Board	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
161	WABOL, Holyan Rose N.	House Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
162	WEILBACHER, Jasmine Brianne	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park

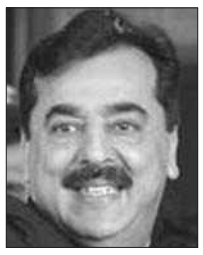
2nd PHASE Work Schedule: Tuesday, July 24- Monday, August 13, 2012

	PARTICIPANT	POSITION	PLACEMENT	WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
163	ABADAM, Carolynn C.	Office Clerk	Board of Professional Licensing/HealthCare Professional Licensing Board	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
164	ABADAM, Donna Jane C.	Office Clerk	Workforce Investment Agency	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
165	ADA, Keshani Beatrice	Office Assistant	CPA-Administration	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
166	ADERKEROI, Francia Ungel Dill	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
167	ADORO, Kerr S.	Sales Representative	Joeten-Boardertine	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
168	AGTON, Margaret Faly R.	House Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
169	AGUSTINO, Arlyana D.	Housekeeping Coordinator	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
170	ALDAN, Leolani DLG.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
171	ALDAN, Marianna Joyce B.	Office Clerk	CNMI Scholarship Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
172	ALEXANDER, Romeo	Dispatcher	DPS-Police Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
173	ALFOREZA, Kristelle P.	Office Assistant	DPL-Planning Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
174	ALVAREZ, Kyle M.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
175	ANGEX, Sherrey L.	Sales Representative	Joeten-The Athletes Foot (Garapan)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
176	ATALIG, Bryton Tyler	Fast Food Worker	McDonald's of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
177	BABILLO, Tasha Lian M.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
178	BASTO, Alaiza Fe A.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
179	BAUTISTA, Kimberly A.	Clerical Aide	Office of the Public Defender	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
180	BAUTISTA, Sophia Laurine A.	Administrative Assistant	Eco Island Development	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
181	BENAVENTE, JJ S.	Trades Helper	DPW-Technical Services Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
182	BENG, Noemee D.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Koyj Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
183	BONDOC, Chiko C.	Filing Clerk	Bank of Saipan-CK Branch	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
184	BORJA, Britney Ann C.	Office Clerk	CNMI Scholarship Office	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
185	BORJA, Colleen Mildred C.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Office of the Secretary	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
186	BORJA, Elisha Maria	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
187	BORJA, Peter Gabriel DLC.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Services	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
188	BRANA, April Kate P.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
189	CABRERA, April Jean S.	Senate Journal Clerk	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
190	CABRERA, Zanny Marie A.	Web Content Editor	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
191	CALAGE, Mavik Anthony S.	Legal Assistant	Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
192	CAMACHO, Kayla K.	Accounting Clerk	Chong's Corporation	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
193	CAMACHO, Kiandi R.	Record Keeping Trainee	DPW-Building Safety Code Division (Gualo Rai)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
194	CASTRO, Charlotte Gabrielle B.	Youth Congress Coordinator	Legislative Bureau	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
195	CASTRO, Ej-Jay G.	Community Worker	Office of the Mayor-Municipality of Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
196	CASTRO, Loddyn T.	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
197	CASTRO, Quecnlyn T.	Office Clerk	NMC-School of Education	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
198	CATILO, Kenneth S.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
199	CELESTE, Wilson Kenneth C.	Stocker Clerk	Joeten-Ace Hardware Gualo Rai	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
200	CHONG, Francisco P.	Guest Service Officer-Club Elan	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
201	CRISOSTOMO, Maggie Jane R.	Office Clerk	DCCA-Child Care Development Fund Program	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
202	CRISOSTOMO, Richard ElB R.	Forestry Trainee	DLNR-DOA (CNMI Forestry	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
203	DACUMA, Princess Diane V.	Administrative Assistant	Sorenson Media Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
204	DEFANG, Freeman S.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
205	DEFANG, Norman S.	Office Assistant	CPA-Ports Police	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
206	DELEON GUERRERO, Ashlynn B.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
207	DELEON GUERRERO, Bernadita Jacinta P.	Office Clerk	Office of the Mayor-SHEFA	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
208	DELOS SANTOS, Anthony Junior M.	Stocker	Joeten-Dandan Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
209	DICIOSO, Ramel Ian D.	Office Clerk	NMHC-Fiscal Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
210	DIZON, Renandrs Shanice DLC	Recreation Worker	Garapan Community Development Center	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
211	DOCA, Rita Lorraine V.	Accounting Clerk	IT&E-Finance & Accounting Department (Susupe)	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
212	ENCARIO, Frederick Ricky	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
213	ENISER, Terryane C.	Office Clerk	DPL-Real Estate Division	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
214	ESCALADA, Shawn J.	Stocker	Joeten-Susupe Market	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
215	ESPAYOS, Matthew M.	Customs Trainee (Airport)	DOF-Division of Customs Service	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
216	ESPINOA, Shanthia N.	TBD*	TBD*	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
217	ESPINOSA, Daryl Jedge E.	License Clerk	DPS-BMV	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
218	EVANGELISTA, Merriana Doloritа I.	Guest Service Officer-Club Elan	Hyatt Regency Saipan	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
219	FAISAO, Dominig T. Jr.	Data Entry Clerk	Department of Commerce-Office of the Registrar	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
220	FONTANILLA, Gregson M.	Sales Clerk	Chong's Corporation	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
221	FUKUICHI, Daileen Therese M.	Library Assistant	Joeten-Kyoj Public Library	1-5pm Monday, June 25 2012 American Memorial Park
222	GERONIMO, Ilysa Mae D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
223	GIBSON, Dana Dora K.	House Legislative Assistant	Legislative Bureau	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
224	GUIAO, Lorenza C.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
225	HELSON, Resty Davis	Produce Assistant	Joeten-Susupe Market	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
226	IBARRA, Dan Dorie D.	TBD*	TBD*	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
227	IBARRA, Ryan D.	Sales Clerk	Joeten-Susupe Department Store	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
228	IGNOMAR, Lorraine	Registration Clerk	DPS-BMV	8-12noon Tuesday, June 26, 2012 American Memorial Park
229	ILO, Berrylyn Elexis	Office Clerk	DCCA-NAP

Asia

Turmoil in Pakistan after prime minister dismissed

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's top court dismissed the prime minister from office on Tuesday for failing to investigate the president for corruption, ushering in a new round of political turmoil in a nation vital to American hopes of withdrawing from neighboring Afghanistan.


Gilani

The Supreme Court ruling against Yousuf Raza Gilani was unlikely to topple the fragile, coalition government. But it left it weakened and without a Cabinet. Most analysts expected the government to heed the court order and begin the process of replacing Gilani, or possibly expedite general elections that must be held before early next year.

The move was likened by some to a " judicial coup" in a country with a history of destabilizing conflicts between the courts, the army and elected governments. It comes as Pakistan faces near economic collapse, power shortages and its own struggle against Islamist militants behind attacks that have killed thousands of people over the last five years.

The prime minister has refused to step down since he was convicted of contempt of court in April for not asking authorities in Switzerland to reopen a 1990s graft case against his boss, President Asif Ali Zardari.

Zardari's Pakistan People's Party should have enough support in parliament to elect a replacement for Gilani, but at the likely cost of concessions to its coalition partners. As a coalition meeting broke up late Tuesday, some media reports said Makhdoom Shahabuddin, the textile minister, was emerging as a consensus candidate.

The ruling was a major escalation in a long-running confrontation between the judges and the government. Supporters of the government, and some independent commentators, accuse the court of pursuing a vendetta against Zardari that threatens the country's nascent democracy. Zardari's critics, on the other hand, say the court is the only institution standing up against the rampant graft—and ineptitude—in his administration.

One possibility was that Gilani and Zardari might try to defy the court order. That could spark institutional deadlock and social unrest. It even raises the possibility of the army staging a coup, as it has done three times in the country's history, or being asked by the court to implement its order.

Yasin Azad, president of the Supreme Court Bar Association, said Gilani had the right to file a "review petition" against the ruling within 30 days, but that it would have little chance of success. Gilani would remain disqualified from office so long as the review was being heard.

The political chaos coincides with a near breakdown in relations between the United States and Pakistan, whose ties to the Afghan Taliban make it important in any negotiated settlement to the war. Pakistan is refusing to reopen NATO supply lines to Afghanistan it blocked in November to protest U.S. airstrikes that killed 24 Pakistani border troops.

Violence spikes across southern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Violence spiked in southern Afghanistan as militants stormed a NATO military base and attacked a police checkpoint Tuesday, a day after gunmen wearing police uniforms killed a U.S. soldier.

The heaviest fighting in Afghanistan this summer has been in the south and east where Afghan forces are increasingly taking charge of security from their international partners. That could signal a rocky transition as foreign combat troops are due to withdraw by the end of 2014.

Most of the attacks over the past two days occurred in the southern Kandahar province, the Taliban's birthplace.

Insurgents attacked a NATO base before dawn Tuesday in Kandahar's Shah Wali Kot district, the U.S.-led coalition said.

Fewer than 10 U.S. troops were wounded and officials believe coalition forces were able to kill seven or eight insurgents, said Navy Capt. John Kirby, a Pentagon spokesman.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was targeting troop sleeping quarters.

Kirby said the attack was apparently carried out by insurgents wearing Afghan military uniforms who breached the perimeter of the operating base and were quickly engaged by coalition forces inside.

The attack at the base appears to have been "at least facilitated—potentially facilitated—by an individual dressed in the Afghan national police uniform," Kirby said.

He noted that violence frequently increases in the summer when it is warmer and the Taliban are more easily able to move through mountain passes.

"Part of that is because of the weather. Part of it is because ... coalition forces are being more aggressive," he said.

A few hours later, militants wearing Afghan police uniforms attacked a police checkpoint in Kandahar city. Three policemen were killed and nine others were wounded during an hour-long gunbattle that ensued, according to the Ministry of Interior. Four militants also died.

The Taliban again claimed responsibility and said the clash lasted six hours.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Cambodia arrests Frenchman linked to China scandal

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodian police have arrested a Frenchman reportedly linked to a politician at the center of China's biggest political scandal in years. Cambodian authorities informed the French Embassy in Phnom Penh of the arrest of Patrick Devillers, embassy spokeswoman Laurence Bernardi said Tuesday. She said no reason was given and the embassy was seeking an explanation from the Cambodian government. It was unclear whether Devillers' arrest was related to China's ongoing investigation into Bo Xilai, the former Communist Party chief of the Chinese city of Chongqing who was dismissed in April.

Indian man unrepentant after beheading daughter

JAIPUR, India (AP)—A father in northwestern India remained unrepentant Tuesday after beheading his daughter with a ceremonial sword in a rage over her relationships with men, police said. The father surrendered at a police station, carrying the head in one hand and the bloodied sword in the other, police said. Residents of Dungarji village expressed shock as they performed the last rites for the 20-year-old woman. Police said the father, marble miner Oghad Singh, accused his daughter of bringing dishonor to the family and making it hard to find husbands for her two unmarried sisters.

Bus plunges into deep ravine in China; 17 killed

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese state media say 17 people were killed and three seriously injured when a long-distance bus overturned and plunged down a deep ravine. The official Xinhua News Agency said the accident occurred early Wendesday and it was not immediately clear what caused the crash. The report said 45 people were on the bus, which was headed from eastern Jiangsu province to the coastal city of Xiamen in Fujian province. It overturned in Fujian's Ningde city.

World

Egypt Mubarak on life support amid crisis

AP

In this Saturday, June 2, 2012 file photo, Egypt's ex-President Hosni Mubarak lays on a gurney inside a barred cage in the police academy courthouse in Cairo, Egypt.

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's Hosni Mubarak was being kept alive by life support after the 84-year-old ousted leader suffered a stroke in prison Tuesday, officials said, deepening the country's uncertainty just as a potentially explosive fight opened over who will succeed him, with both candidates claiming to have won last weekend's presidential election.

The developments, which saw Mubarak moved out of prison to a military hospital, add further layers to what is threatening to become a new chapter of unrest and political power struggles in Egypt, 16 months after Mubarak was ousted by a popular uprising demanding democracy.

The Muslim Brotherhood, emboldened by its claims that it candidate won the election, sent tens of thousands of its supporters into the street. It was an escalation of its confrontation against the ruling generals over their grab this week of sweeping powers that give them dominance over the next president.

Some 50,000 protesters, mostly Islamists, protested in Cairo's Tahrir Square on Tuesday evening chanting slogans in support of the Brotherhood's candidate Mohammed Morsi and denouncing the generals. "We, the people, gave them (the military) legitimacy and we now are taking back," said Saber Ibrahim, a 36-year-old school teacher who came from his native Beni Suef south of Cairo to participate in the rally.

The conflicting claims over the election could further stoke the heat. The campaign of Mubarak's former prime minister, Ahmed Shafiq, said Tuesday he won the election, denying the Brotherhood's claim of Morsi's victory. Hundreds of his supporters took to the streets in Cairo in celebration.

The election commission is to announce the official final results on Thursday and no matter who it names as victor, his rival is likely to reject the result as a fraud. If Shafiq is declared winner in particular, it could spark an explosive backlash from the Brotherhood, which has said Shafiq could only win by fraud.

The sudden health crisis of Mubarak, who is serving a life prison sentence, briefly overshadowed the political standoff.

Moving Mubarak out of prison is likely to further infuriate many in the public. Many Egyptians have been skeptical of earlier reports that his health was worsening since he was put in prison on June 2, believing the reports were just a pretext to move him to another facility. There is a widespread suspicion that security and military officials sympathetic to their old boss are giving him preferential treatment.

Details of the crisis were still sketchy. Earlier the state news agency MENA and officials said that while at the Torah Prison hospital he suffered a "fast deterioration of his health." His heart stopped beating until he was revived by defibrillation, then he suffered a stroke.

At that point, he was moved from the prison hospital to Maadi military hospital—notably the same one where his predecessor Anwar Sadat was declared dead more than 30 years ago after being gunned down by Islamic militants.

When Mubarak arrived at the hospital, he was "clinically dead," MENA reported. It said doctors repeatedly defibrillated him with no initial response. But later, a security official said Mubarak was on life support. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press, had no further details.

WORLD BRIEFS

UK: 'Arms' ship for Syria heading back to Russia

LONDON (AP)—A Russian-operated ship said to be carrying military helicopters to Syria appears to have turned back after its British insurer removed coverage for the vessel, U.K. officials said Tuesday. Britain's Foreign Office said the ship, the MV Alaed, changed course in Europe after news reports emerged about its alleged contents. Earlier, the Foreign Office confirmed it was aware that a ship carrying a consignment of refurbished Russian-made attack helicopters was heading to Syria.

WikiLeaks founder seeks asylum at Ecuador embassy

LONDON (AP)—WikiLeaks chief Julian Assange has taken refuge at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London, seeking asylum in a long shot move that would see him trade the glare of an often-hostile British press for the comforts of a small Latin American nation governed by a friendly leader. Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said the leftist government of President Rafael Correa—an administration often at odds with Washington—was weighing the request. He did not indicate when a decision might be made. Assange's legal options in the U.K. had almost completely run out.

Focus

WASHINGTON (AP)—For the first time, the influx of Asians moving to the U.S. has surpassed that of Hispanics, reflecting a slowdown in illegal immigration while American employers increase their demand for high-skilled workers.

New Asian immigrants to US now surpass Hispanic

HOPE YEN
Associated Press

AP

Immigrant rights supporters walk to a nearby rally with the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island in the background, in Jersey City, New Jersey, April 2006.

An expansive study by the Pew Research Center details what it describes as "the rise of Asian-Americans," a highly diverse and fast-growing group making up roughly 5 percent of the U.S. population. Mostly foreign-born and naturalized citizens, their numbers have been boosted by increases in visas granted to specialized workers and to wealthy investors as the U.S. economy becomes driven less by manufacturing and more by technology.

"Too often the policy debates on immigration fixate on just one part—illegal immigration," said Karthick Ramakrishnan, a political science professor at the University of California-Riverside and a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. "U.S. immigration is more diverse and broader than that, with policy that needs to focus also on high-skilled workers."

"With net migration from Mexico now at zero, the role of Asian-Americans has become more important," he said.

About 430,000 Asians, or 36 percent of all new immigrants, arrived in the U.S. in 2010, according to the latest census data. That's compared to about 370,000, or 31 percent, who were Hispanic.

The Pew analysis, released Tuesday, said the tipping point for Asian immigrants likely occurred during 2009 as illegal immigrants crossing the border from Mexico sharply declined due to increased immigration enforcement and a dwindling supply of low-wage work in the weak U.S. economy. Many Mexicans already in the U.S. have also been heading back to their country, putting recent net migration at a standstill.

As recently as 2007, about 390,000 of new immigrants to the U.S. were Asian, compared to 540,000 who were Hispanic.

The shift to increased Asian immigration, particularly of people from India, China and South Korea, coincides with changes in U.S. immigration policy dating to the 1990s that began to favor wealthy and educated workers. The policy, still in place but subject to caps that have created waiting lists, fast-tracks visas for foreigners willing to invest at least half a million dollars in U.S. businesses or for workers in high-tech and other specialized fields who have at least a bachelor's degree.

International students studying at U.S. colleges and universities also are now most likely to come from Asian countries, roughly 6 in 10, and some of them are able to live and work in the U.S. after graduation. Asian students, both foreign born and U.S. born, earned a plurality (45 percent) of all engineering Ph.D.s in 2010, as well as 38 percent of doctorates in math and computer sciences and 33 percent of doctorates in the physical sciences.

Several bills pending in Congress that are backed by U.S. businesses seek to address some of the visa backlogs, through measures such as eliminating per-country limits on employment-based visas or encouraging investment in the sluggish U.S. real estate market. They have stalled amid broader public debate over immigration reform that has focused largely on lower-skilled, undocumented workers.

In recent years, more than 60 percent of Asian immigrants ages 25 to 64 have graduated from university, double the share for new arrivals from other continents.

As a whole, the share of higher-skilled immigrants in the U.S. holding at least a bachelor's degree now outpaces those lacking a high-school diploma, 30 percent to 28 percent.

"Like immigrants throughout American history, the new arrivals from Asia are strivers," said Paul Taylor, executive vice president of the Pew Research Center and co-author of the report. "What's distinctive about them is their educational credentials. These aren't the tired, poor, huddled masses of Emma Lazarus's famous inscription on the Statue of Liberty. They are the highly skilled workforce of the 21st century."

The findings are part of Pew's broad portrait of Asian-Americans, immigrants or U.S.-born children of immigrants who come mostly from China, the Philippines, India, Vietnam, Korea and Japan. Now tied with Hispanics as the fastest-growing U.S. group, the nation's 15.1 million Asian-Americans are slowly becoming visible as founders of startups in Silicon Valley, owners of ethnic eateries, grocery stores and other small businesses in cities across the U.S., as well as candidates for political office and a key bloc of voters in states such as California, Nevada and Virginia, according to experts.

Projected to make up 1 in 10 residents by midcentury, Asian-Americans as a whole tend to be more satisfied than the general public with their lives and the direction of the country. They lean Democratic, prefer a big government that provides more services, and place more value on marriage, parenthood, hard work and career success.

The Pew study also revealed wide variations among Asian subgroups in poverty, employment and education, which sometimes belied their typecast as a "model minority." For instance:

■ **Poverty:** As a whole, Asian-Americans had a poverty rate in 2010 of 11.9 percent, lower than the 12.8 percent for the general U.S. population. By country of origin, however, Koreans, Vietnamese and Chinese were more likely than the average American to live in poverty, at rates of 14 percent or more.

■ **Education:** The share of Asian-Americans who hold at least a bachelor's degree surpasses the national average, 49 percent to 28 percent. Vietnamese, however, fell below the national average at 26 percent. People from India were most likely to have a college degree, at 70 percent.

■ **Unemployment:** Asian-Americans ages 25 and older were somewhat less likely to be unemployed than the national average for the first quarter of 2012 — 6 percent compared to 7.4 percent for all U.S. workers. But in terms of long-term unemployment, Asian-Americans fared much worse, with median duration of unemployment at 28 weeks, second only to African-Americans (31 weeks). The national average was 22 weeks.

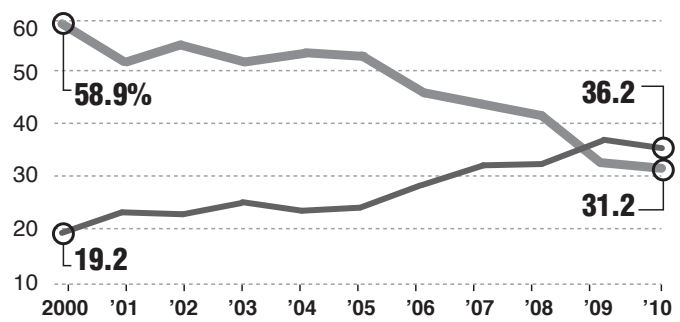
■ **Illegal immigration:** While immigrants from Asia often obtain visas and arrive legally, many also sneak across the U.S. border or become undocumented residents after overstaying their visas. Up to 15 percent of Asian immigrants in the U.S. are here illegally, compared to 45 percent of Hispanic immigrants.

The Pew survey is based on an analysis of census data as well as interviews with 3,511 Asian adults living in the U.S., conducted by cell phone or landline from Jan. 3 to March 27. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.4 percentage points for all respondents, higher for subgroups.

Asian Americans

In 2009, immigrants arriving from Asia exceeded the number of new Latino immigrants for the first time.

Percentage of all U.S. immigrants, by arrival year

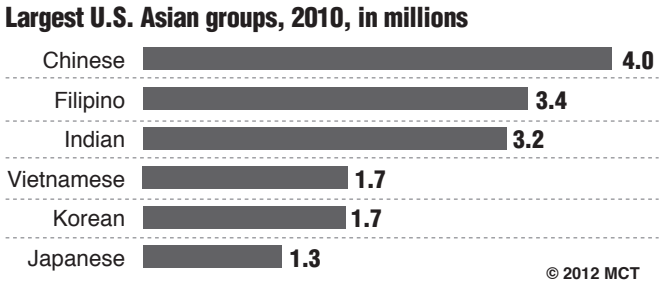


Education and income levels, 2010

	Percentage with a bachelor's degree*	Median household income
U.S. population	28%	$49,800
Asians	49	66,000
Whites	31	54,000
Blacks	18	33,300
Latinos	13	40,000

* Or higher, among age 25 and older

Largest U.S. Asian groups, 2010, in millions



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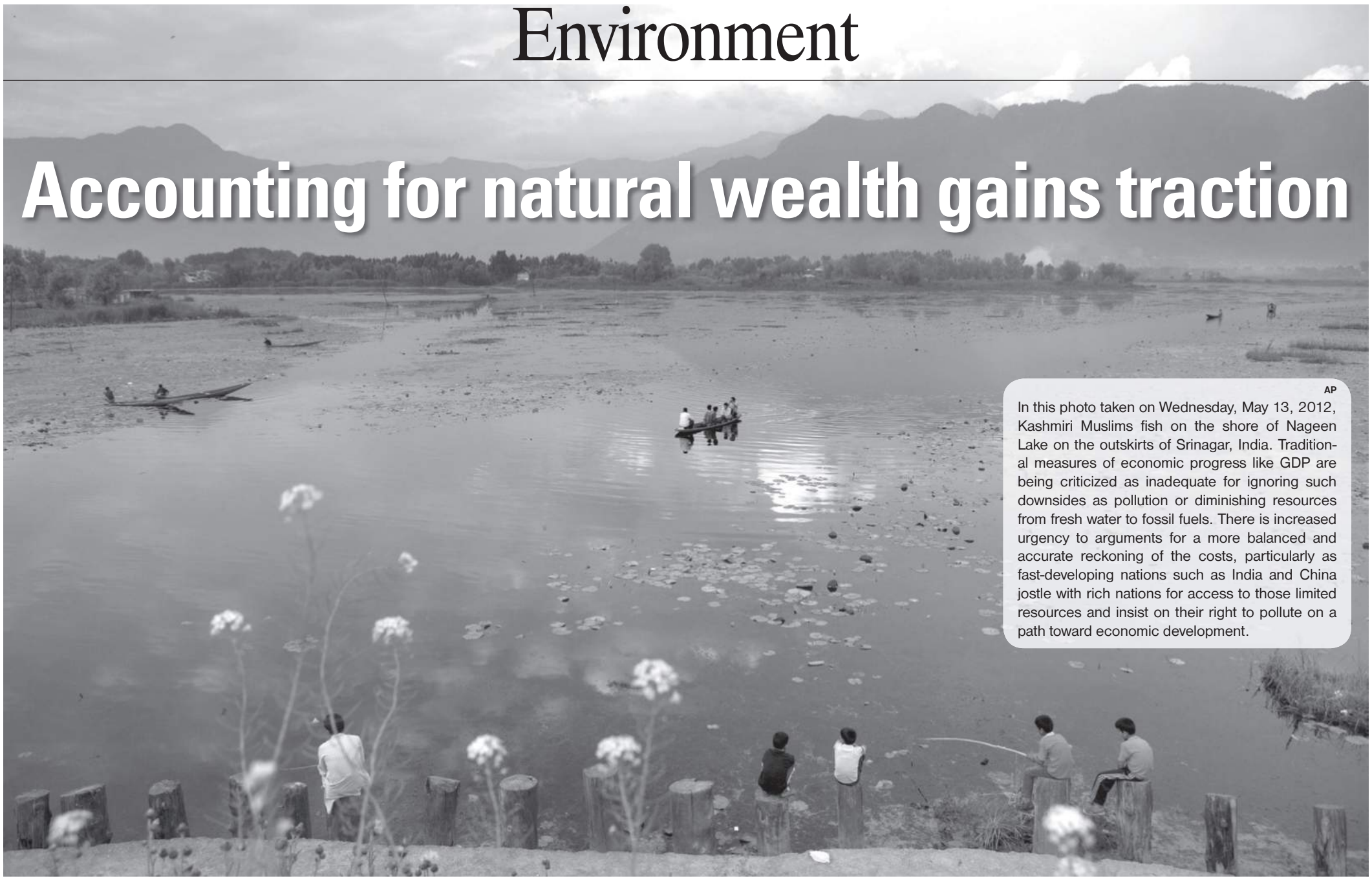
Source: Pew Research Center, U.S. Census Bureau Graphic: Los Angeles Times

Environment

Accounting for natural wealth gains traction



AP

In this photo taken on Wednesday, May 13, 2012, Kashmiri Muslims fish on the shore of Nageen Lake on the outskirts of Srinagar, India. Traditional measures of economic progress like GDP are being criticized as inadequate for ignoring such downsides as pollution or diminishing resources from fresh water to fossil fuels. There is increased urgency to arguments for a more balanced and accurate reckoning of the costs, particularly as fast-developing nations such as India and China jostle with rich nations for access to those limited resources and insist on their right to pollute on a path toward economic development.

NEW DELHI (AP)—What is a sip of clean water worth? Is there economic value in the shade of a tree? And how much would you pay for a breath of fresh air?

Putting a price on a natural bounty long taken for granted as free may sound impossible, even ridiculous. But after three decades on the fringes of serious policymaking, the idea is gaining traction, from the vividly clear waters of the Maldives to the sober, suited reaches of the World Bank.

As traditional measures of economic progress like GDP are criticized for ignoring downsides including pollution or diminishment of resources such as fresh water or fossil fuels, there has been an increased urgency to arguments for a more balanced and accurate reckoning of costs. That is particularly so as fast-developing nations such as India and China jostle with rich nations for access to those resources and insist on their own right to pollute on a path toward growth.

Proponents of so-called "green accounting"—who will gather in Rio de Janeiro this week for the Rio Earth Summit—hope that putting dollar values on resources will slam the brakes on unfettered development. A mentality of growth at any cost is already blamed for disasters like the chronic floods that hit deforested Haiti or the raging sand storms that have swept regions of China, worsening desertification.

Environmental economists argue that redefining nature in stark monetary terms would offer better information for making economic and development decisions. That, they say, would make governments and corporations less likely to jeopardize future stocks of natural assets or environmental systems that mostly unseen make the planet habitable, from forests filtering water to the frogs keeping swarming insects in check.

If the value of an asset like a machine is reduced as it wears out, proponents say, the same accounting principle should apply to a dwindling natural resource.

"Environmental arguments come from the heart. But in today's world based on economics it's hard for arguments of the heart to win," said Pavan Sukhdev, a former banker now leading an ongoing project that was proposed by the Group of Eight industrialized nations to study monetary values for the environment.

That study, started in 2007, has estimated the world economy suffers roughly $2.5 trillion to $4 trillion in losses every year due to environmental degradation. That's up to 7 percent of global GDP.

"We need to understand what we're losing in order to save it," Sukhdev said. "You cannot manage what you do not measure."

Using the same accounting principles, some countries are already changing policy.

The Maldives recently banned fishing gray reef sharks after working out that each was worth $3,300 a year in tourism revenue, versus $32 paid per catch. Ugandans spared a Kampala wetland from agricultural development after calculating it would cost $2 million a year to run a sewage treatment facility—the same job the swamp does for free.

But environmental accounting still faces many detractors and obstacles. Among them is resistance from governments who might lack the resources and expertise to publish a "greened" set of national accounts alongside those measuring economic growth. Particularly in the developing world, many still struggle to produce even traditional statistics that are timely and credible.

And even practitioners are riven by debates on how to put a price on a vast range of natural resources and systems that encapsulate everything from pollination by bees to the erosion prevented by mangroves in an estuary. The single largest difficulty is that markets, which are the easiest way to value goods and services, don't exist for ecosystems.

"Since many things don't formally have a market price, how do you value them? Almost all the debate and discussion really hinges around valuation issues, and that is where it can get flakey," said India's former chief statistician Pronab Sen.

At one extreme, said Sen, are people who say natural resources should get a zero value since we don't know how to value them. Others argue that the values for such resources should be infinite, meaning they can't be touched since no one has an infinite amount of money.

Opposition is also expected from parts of the corporate world, since green accounting could make doing business or buying products more expensive.

A forest once valued by what its trees fetch on the timber exchange might instead be valued according to the carbon dioxide it absorbs, the animals it supports, the water it filters and the firewood it provides. Or it could be revalued with future generations in mind. That might lead to higher felling fees, pricey replanting requirements or more expensive wood. Some might rethink the economic benefit of cutting it down. Science would become a more important factor in economic decision-making.

Some businesses, however, are embracing the idea to appeal to consumers demanding more accountability. Supermarkets like Britain's Tesco now offer carbon footprints on packaging alongside calorie counts.

At a national level, green accounting is already being embraced by some governments, even if still in piecemeal fashion.

India in April announced plans for green national accounts by 2015 though it's unclear if the country's chaotic bureaucracy can reach that target. Australia will soon begin taxing carbon dioxide emissions, which Costa Rica has been doing for a decade to fund forest preservation.

Late last century, a team of U.S., Dutch and Argentine researchers put a $33 trillion value a year on natural resources such as water, wood and fossil fuels and "services" such as a forest's absorption of carbon dioxide. The estimate is more than double the value of the U.S. economy, the world's largest. While admitting difficulties and uncertainties in their methods and calculations, the team's report said the $33 trillion figure was conservative.

Carbon credits, perhaps the best known example of giving a value to an environmental good, also illustrate the difficulties. Experts thought the pricing of carbon credits might have been straightforward, since emissions are easily measured and every CO2 unit is the same. But the carbon market wobbled wildly for years over estimates ranging from $5 to $500 per unit.

Other resources open worlds of debate. Water—frozen, liquid or gas, it's found just about everywhere from vast oceans or tropical mist to mountain glaciers and underground aquifers. It's used for drinking, bathing, growing plants, processing sewage, powering hydroelectric plants, driving weather systems and more. So not all water is created equal.

But should one lake be worth more than another? Does it matter if people depend on it, or if it supports schools of tasty fish? Should it even matter what it's used for now? Or is it more important to consider if it can be replenished?

Some argue such questions make it clear that subjecting the natural world to free market ideology is immoral and counterproductive.

"The result would be the further privatization of essential elements of our planet to which we all share rights and have responsibilities," writes Hannah Griffiths from the World Development Movement, a UK-based anti-poverty campaigning organization, in a recent essay for the Guardian.

Still some experts in the field say the world is on track to having comprehensive green accounts within 10 to 15 years.

A crucial advance has been the United Nations' quiet adoption in April of a framework of agreed concepts and definitions for green accounting that can be applied in any country. It took two decades to develop but stops short of valuing complex ecosystems.

"The accounting is not pie in the sky anymore," said economist Peter Bartelmus, who led the original U.N. effort.

The World Bank, meanwhile, is backing projects in Botswana, Colombia, Costa Rica, Madagascar and the Philippines that are looking for ways for national accounts to include the value of natural resources.

"Doing something is better than doing nothing. We shouldn't even aim for perfection, either," said Sen, the former statistician.

"It is much more important to come up with a methodology that people find intuitively acceptable rather than looking for hard commercial truths. If at a gut level people find it fair, then I think we can run with the idea."

Life & Style

911 call details moments after King found in pool

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rodney King's fiancee said in a frantic 911 call that she threw a shovel to try to rouse him after she woke to the sounds of a fall and found him at the bottom of his swimming pool.

Cynthia Kelley repeatedly implored authorities to hurry to King's Rialto, Calif., home early Sunday. In audio authorities released Tuesday, Kelley tells a dispatcher that she tried to rouse King but he wasn't responding.

"He's not moving," Kelley said, crying throughout the call. "I was sleeping, all of a sudden I heard something fall like the table and then I looked over and then I went to find him and he's at the bottom of the swimming pool. He's still there. Please hurry up."

AP

Rialto police detective Carla McCullough, right, and a photographer conduct an investigation at Rodney King's home in Rialto, Calif., Sunday, June 17, 2012.

The 5-minute, 15-second phone call ends with the arrival of police officers who pulled King from the pool and began life-saving efforts. He was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Police have said they have found no signs of foul play and continue to investigate King's case as an accidental drowning.

Authorities are awaiting toxicology results and said they'll use them in conjunction with an autopsy performed Monday to determine how King died.

The dispatcher asked Kelley if she was able to get into the pool to get King out, but she said she couldn't. She said she tried to "wake him up," including throwing a shovel into the water, but he wasn't responding.

At one point, Kelley told dispatchers that the man in the pool was King, "the guy that got beat by the police."

Kelley, who was interviewed by police for several hours Sunday, is heard on the audio saying she needs to call King's family.

King became famous after his severe beating by Los Angeles police in 1991 was captured on videotape and broadcast worldwide.

The trial of four officers charged with felony assault in the beating ended after a jury with no black members acquitted three of the officers on state charges; a mistrial was declared for a fourth.

The verdict sparked one of the most costly and deadly race riots in the nation's history.

At Cirque du Soleil, 2 acrobats juggle parenthood

NEW YORK (AP)—It's hard enough for the parents of a toddler to balance work and home. So imagine how hard it is if the work itself is all about balancing.

Meet Jeremie Robert and Julie Dionne, two acrobats in Cirque du Soleil's show "Zarkana" who are raising a 2-year-old son while both earn a living by spinning in a metal wheel that's thinner than a hula hoop.

While their jobs are unusual, they're like any other doting parents. Robert, 28, from Paris, and Dionne, 36, from Montreal, are clearly enchanted by Emile, an exuberant blur of movement who speaks French and Russian.

"It doesn't matter how bad the day went or how good it went," says Robert. "We step in the door and it's `Papa!' and `Mama!' and lots of running. If you have a bad day or you're tired, he makes you forget."

Robert and Dionne helped create the $50 million "Zarkana" a year ago when it made its debut in New York at Radio City Music Hall. The 11-act, 73-performer "acrobatic rock opera" then visited Madrid and Moscow before returning to New York this summer. It has gotten leaner over the past year, the characters have been deepened and the acrobatics are tighter.

Before a recent performance in the cavernous, 6,000-seat Radio City, Emile gleefully ran all over the carpeted aisles, his laughter infectious. He tore about in every direction, clutching a toy horse, returning every few minutes triumphantly to his parents' arms, babbling and slightly out of breath.

"Papa! Papa!" he told Robert in French after one such moment. "It's so big!"

At other moments, he begged to jump up into his mother's arms and then, in a move that would make P.T. Barnum proud, successfully balanced with one leg in his mother's lap and the other in his father's.

Emile, who was born in Japan when his parents were in the touring Cirque show "Corteo," has now been to at least 10 countries and gotten used to a new bedroom every so often. "A lot of people say changes are hard for children, but he's adapted so wonderfully," Dionne says.

In "Zarkana," Emile's parents have dual duties. They appear between acts as part of a parade of white-clad performers—she as a pregnant bride, he as a sort of demented old-school pilot—who add some clownish humor to the show, which also includes high-wire walkers, handstanders, flag throwers and a sand-painting artist.

AP

This June 14, 2012 photo shows Cirque du Soleil "Zarkana" performers Jeremie Robert, left, and Julie Dionne play with their two-and-a-half year-old son Émile in their temporary apartment in New York.

They also appear in the same high-octane acrobatic act—he onstage spinning inside a silver Cyr Wheel, while she performs stunts in and out of her own hoop that is suspended dozens of feet in the air. While they're at work, Emile is cared for by the wife of another performer.

Having Emile has made his parents not only more focused, but also more creative, particularly when it comes time to channel their inner clown. They say they watch his games and try to capture his sense of naivete and play.

"We try not to censor ourselves onstage and I think that comes from him," says his mom. "Sometimes I'll have an idea, but I'll wonder, `Will it be good?' or `Is it believable?' He just goes for it and to see him do it is an inspiration. I've learned from his curiosity."

After "Zarkana" ends its run in New York in early September, it will take up permanent residency at the Aria Resort & Casino in Las Vegas. Emile and his parents won't follow, instead moving to the circus-friendly city of Montreal.

Emile's parents have spent long years perfecting their skills. When he was 15, Robert enrolled in the French National Circus School, where he studied for three years. He then moved to Montreal to study for three years at the Canadian National Circus School, specializing in trampoline and teeterboard.

Dionne studied modern ballet and jazz as a youth and was trained at The Dance School of Quebec, specializing in modern dance. She also studied at the National Circus School, but never overlapped with her future partner.

They met in "Corteo," which toured Canada, the U.S., Japan and Russia. They were friends for two years before it turned into romance. Cirque didn't discourage it since both were artists and there was no imbalance of power. Both say Cirque is a great place to work, with insurance, sick days and parental leave offered.

Romances in Cirque companies are not unusual since performers and crew spend all their time together, especially on tour. Some Cirque acts also include whole families. "It's work, it's life, it's family—it's everything all at once," says Robert.

Emile was born close to midnight on Dec. 27, 2010, but Robert couldn't linger too long over the newborn: He had two shows to perform the next day. By the next New Year's Day, Emile was walking; his mother went back to performing after nine months.

New dad Robert gave up the teeterboard, which in Cirque is not the simple seesaw you find in playgrounds. In the circus, it's a macho duel among performers who reach ridiculous heights as they catapult from a large board. "I was used to it and everything but sometimes it was difficult with only four hours of sleep," explains Robert.

Might little Emile have inherited some acrobatic genes from his parents, both lean and muscular? "He's got the energy," says his mother, with a laugh. Emile is already interested in basic acrobatics and does rolls and the splits. He enjoys watching his parents' shows and he juggles at home.

"We're not pushing. I don't think we will. If he wants to follow us, that's fine," says Robert, pulling Emile into his arms. His mother agrees: "He might want to be an accountant. Who knows?"

But even as she says this, the boy uses his father's chest as a climbing wall.

Susan Tyrrell, known for offbeat film roles, dies

DALLAS (AP)—Oscar-nominated actress Susan Tyrrell, known for roles in offbeat films including John Waters' "Cry-Baby," has died. She was 67.

AP

In this May 13, 2010 photo, actress Susan Tyrrell, poses for a photograph with her dog Zuzu in Austin, Texas.

Tyrrell died Saturday in her sleep at home in Austin, her niece told The Associated Press on Tuesday. Tyrrell, who received a best supporting actress Oscar nomination for her role as barfly Oma in John Huston's 1972 boxing movie "Fat City," appeared in more than 75 movies and television shows.

"She had a larger than life personality," said David Zellner, who directed Tyrrell in the movie "Kid-Thing," which is currently making the rounds at film festivals. "She had more adventures and experiences in her life than most anyone I know."

The movie is about a 10-year-old delinquent girl who lives in the Texas countryside and happens across a mysterious woman, played by Tyrrell, in a well, said Zellner.

Her niece, Amy Sweet, said her aunt moved to Austin to live near her. She said Tyrrell's legs were amputated below the knee 12 years ago as a result of complications from a blood clotting disorder.

Sweet said her aunt's passions ranged from rap music to animals, and that she even had a bug collection.

"On the night she died, she'd found a dragonfly she was excited about. Everything was a huge deal," Sweet said.

A Travis County Medical Examiner's Office official said a cause of death was pending.

Tyrrell was born Susan Creamer on March 18, 1945, in San Francisco, though she eventually changed her last name to Tyrrell, her mother's maiden name, Sweet said. Tyrrell grew up in Connecticut and then got her start in acting on the stages of New York City before moving to Los Angeles, Sweet said.

Sweet said she plans to celebrate her aunt's life with a showing of "Fat City" next week at an Austin movie theater, followed by a gathering there to recognize her aunt's "unbridled irreverence and love for life." The movie showing and memorial will be open to the public, with a cost of $5 for those who aren't friends or family.

"She loved to party," Sweet said. She said her aunt would often write in a journal, and an entry from January featured the line: "I demand my death be joyful and I never return again."

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NOW SHOWING

Rock of Ages

Friday and Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	10:05
Sunday thru Thursday	1:25	4:25	7:25	

Tom Cruise, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand
Musical • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Two love-struck dreamers fall in love during the heights of the hair-metal scene as they navigate the seedy world of drugs, mullets, and stripping while at a club on the Sunset Strip in this adaptation of the hit off-Broadway musical. Barry Munday's Chris D'Arienzo adapts his own stage book and handles direction duties for the New Line production.

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted

Friday and Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday thru Thursday	1:15	4:15	7:15	

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer
Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

The third entry in the Madagascar franchise finds the tightknit group of animals joining a traveling circus in order to get back home. Noah Baumbach provides the script, with Eric Darnell handling director duties. Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Sacha Baron Cohen reprise the voice roles, with Frances McDormand stepping in as the villain.

Prometheus

Friday and Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday thru Thursday	1:30	4:30	7:30	

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender
Science Fiction • Rated R

Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday and Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday thru Thursday	1:05	4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Men In Black 3

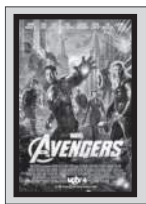
Friday and Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday thru Thursday	1:20	4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Battleship

Friday and Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday thru Thursday	1:00	4:00	7:00	

Liam Neeson, Taylor Kitsch
Science fiction, War • Rated PG 13



Marvel's The Avengers

Friday and Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday thru Thursday	1:10	4:10	7:10	

Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

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Photographer says Alec Baldwin hit him in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Another anger mismanagement allegation has arisen against Alec Baldwin, this time on his way to the altar.

A newspaper photographer filed a complaint with police on Tuesday accusing the "30 Rock" star of punching him outside a marriage license bureau.

No charges had been filed, and the actor vehemently denied throwing any punches.

Daily News photographer Marcus Santos said that Baldwin became enraged as he and other photographers were snapping pictures of the 54-year-old actor and his fiancee, Hilaria Thomas, outside the lower Manhattan office where marriage licenses are obtained.

Santos told the newspaper, "I knew he was going to attack me. I stepped back, and he kept coming." He claimed the actor shoved him before punching him "one time, right in the chin."

A statement on Tuesday from Baldwin's publicist accused the photographer of being the aggressor.

AP

This June 12, 2012 file photo shows actor Alec Baldwin and his fiancee Hilaria Thomas at The Friars Club and Friars Foundation Honor of Tom Cruise at The Waldorf-Astoria in New York.

As Baldwin and his fiancee were leaving, a person "walking in front of Alec positioned himself to obstruct the view of a photographer aggressively trying to shoot the couple," the statement said. "The photographer was clearly frustrated, pushed past the bystander and assaulted Alec with his camera. There were no punches thrown, and any subsequent physical contact was simply Alec protecting himself."

Photos on the newspaper's website (http://nydn.us/M3X-inW) appear to show Baldwin shoving the photographer.

A New York Police Department spokeswoman confirmed the allegation was under investigation.

Last year, an American Airlines flight was delayed by Baldwin's refusal to stop playing a cellphone game, and he was kicked off the plane. Baldwin later asked for forgiveness from fellow passengers but stopped short of apologizing to the airline or the flight attendant he later mocked on Twitter.

Baldwin posted Tuesday on Twitter: "A `photographer' almost hit me in the face with his camera this morning." He also said paparazzi should be "waterboarded."

In 2008, Baldwin blamed a bitter custody battle with ex-wife Kim Basinger in part for the anger and frustration he was feeling when he berated their daughter in a phone message that was leaked to the media.

In the message, Baldwin called their daughter, Ireland, a "rude, thoughtless little pig." He apparently was upset that she had missed his phone call. He said he apologized to Ireland and said the message was wrong and "horrified" him.

'End of the World' has its moments

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

AP

This film image released by Focus Features shows, Steve Carell as Dodge, left, and Keira Knightley as Penny in a scene from "Seeking A Friend for the End of the World."

Steve Carell and Keira Knightley, together as a couple who've fallen suddenly and madly in love? Surely the apocalypse is nigh.

It's coming in three weeks, to be exact, in "Seeking a Friend for the End of the World," the feature directing debut from screenwriter Lorene Scafaria ("Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist").

An asteroid 70 miles wide is hurtling toward Earth, ensuring destruction and doom for the entire planet. Scafaria explores how people behave when the rules of polite society are stripped away, a premise that isn't exactly novel—the world ended just last year, much more artfully, in Lars Von Trier's "Melancholia"—but one that's brimming with potential for absurdist, satirical comedy.

Within that setting, Carell and Knightley get thrown together. The pairing doesn't make a whole lot of sense on paper—in the real world or on the big screen—but for the most part they have enough unexpected, opposites-attract likability and find themselves in enough strangely amusing situations to make the movie work. The mawkish third act, however, nearly destroys all that appeal.

Carell's character, Dodge, is very much in the vein of the detached and depressed but wryly observant figures he's played before: He's an insurance agent whose wife takes when news of the asteroid breaks. Knightley is his downstairs neighbor in the apartment building, Penny, a free-spirited, pot-smoking Brit with a penchant for classic vinyl records. She is your quintessential Manic Pixie Dream Girl.

Naturally, these two people need to go on a road trip.

MOVIE REVIEW

All Dodge wants to do is track down his high school sweetheart, The One That Got Away, in hopes of rekindling the romance in his final days. (Clearly, she's meant to represent everything he wanted out of life and never achieved.) Penny, meanwhile, is fresh off a bad break-up (from a ridiculously self-centered musician played by Adam Brody) and all she wants to do is get home to England to ride it out with her family. Dodge knows a guy with a plane who can help her.

Their journey (Scafaria also wrote the script) is buoyed by individual moments, and by some of the inspired casting that's revealed at each stop along the way. Among the best scenes takes place at the beginning: an end-of-the-world party Dodge's friend Warren (Rob Corddry) and his wife (Connie Britton) throw, where civilized, middle-aged people cavort in wild ways because ... why not? Nothing matters anymore. Similarly, Dodge and Penny find themselves at a TGI Friday's-style restaurant called Friendsy's where everyone has clearly been doing Ecstasy and the possibility of indulgence and danger lurks in every fake Tiffany-lamped corner.

But enjoyably odd moments like these give way to sentimentality by the end, as if Scafaria didn't feel comfortable just letting her characters succumb to the inevitable. No, they have to "learn something." They have to find catharsis and redemption. They have to tidy things up before the end—and the film's ending itself feels too tidy, as well.

The mess would have been more interesting—and more real.

"Seeking a Friend for the End of the World," a Focus Features release, is rated R for language including some sexual references, some drug use and brief violence. Running time: 101 minutes. ✪✪☾

Johnny Depp splits from partner Vanessa Paradis

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Johnny Depp and his longtime partner, Vanessa Paradis, have split.

A publicist for Depp said in a statement Tuesday that the two "have amicably separated." The statement requested privacy for the former couple and their two children, 9-year-old son, Jack, and 13-year-old daughter, Lily-Rose.

Depp and Paradis met in 1998 but never married during their 14-year relationship. The American actor and the French model-singer lived together with their children in France.

Depp's most recent film credits include "The Rum Diary" and "Dark Shadows." He is set to star as Tonto in the big-screen take on "The Lone Ranger," due next year.

AP

This Feb. 24, 2009 file photo shows Johnny Depp, nominated for an Oscar for best actor in a leading role for his work in "Sweeney Todd The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," arriving with his girlfriend Vanessa Paradis for the 80th Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

AP Source: Houston's mother to perform tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—Whitney Houston's mother will perform a tribute to her late daughter alongside other female singers at the upcoming BET Awards.

A source familiar with BET's plans said Tuesday that Cissy Houston will take the stage at the July 1 awards show to honor her daughter. Cissy will be joined by "a few top divas," the source said, though the source could not give their names.

The source spoke on condition of anonymity because the tribute has not been officially announced.

Whitney Houston died at age 48 in February. Authorities called her death an accidental drowning, complicated by heart disease and cocaine use.

The BET Awards airs live from The Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. Kanye West, Beyonce and Jay-Z are the top nominees.

AP

In this Saturday, May 12, 2012 file photo, Cissy Houston performs at Gospelfest in Newark, N.J.

Historian Hastings wins $100,000 Pritzker award

NEW YORK (AP)—British historian Max Hastings has won a $100,000 lifetime achievement honor for military writing.

Hastings, 66, has won the Pritzker Military Library's Literature Award. His 23 books include "Inferno," "Finest Years" and other World War II histories. He is also a former war correspondent and a former editor-in-chief of the Daily Telegraph.

The Chicago-based Pritzker library announced the award Monday. Previous winners of the Pritzker include James M. McPherson and Rick Atkinson. The award is sponsored by the Tawani Foundation, also based in Chicago.

Ex-Pearl Jam management exec charged with theft

SEATTLE (AP)—A man who worked as the chief financial officer for Pearl Jam's management company has been charged with 33 counts of theft.

In charges filed earlier this month, 54-year-old Rickey Charles Goodrich, of Navato, Calif., is accused of using his position with Curtis Inc. to bilk the grunge rock band out of $380,000 from 2006 until he was fired in September 2010.

The seattlepi.com reports (http://is.gd/sXNmIn) Goodrich declined to comment Tuesday. He's expected to enter a plea at his June 28 arraignment in King County Superior Court.

Prosecutors say Goodrich transferred money from company accounts to pay debts and personal expenses including family vacations and wine.

Todd Palin among 'Stars Earn Stripes' contestants

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC says Sarah Palin's husband, Todd, will compete against retired boxing champion Laila Ali, singer Nick Lachey and other celebrities in an upcoming competition show called "Stars Earn Stripes."

NBC announced Tuesday that retired Army Gen. and former presidential candidate Wesley Clark will co-host the series with television personality Samantha Harris.

The eight competitors will convene at a remote training facility to tackle difficult missions inspired by real military exercises. Each competitor will be paired with a trainer who has been a member of the armed forces or a law enforcement agency.

Each team will play for a military or veterans charity. A team will be eliminated weekly.

"Stars Earn Stripes" premieres Aug. 13.

In this Nov. 3, 2008 file photo, Todd Palin, husband of then-Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, applauds during a campaign stop at the airport in Colorado Springs, Colo.

AP

Freedom from controlling wife is worth the price of divorce

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Over the years you have published letters about the hard work done by wives who stayed at home and advised that husbands should share some of the load.

I am a male. When I was married I got up with the kids, made breakfast, packed their lunches, cleaned the kitchen and left for work. I did 90 percent of the grocery shopping and prepared dinner four or five nights a week. On weekends, I cut the grass, trimmed shrubs and repaired whatever needed fixing. I took care of the cars and found time to have fun with the kids.

My wife liked late-night TV and was too tired to get up in the morning. She also loved the morning talk shows and shopping. She did laundry, but I paid for a cleaning lady because vacuuming hurt her back.

When I resisted her controlling ways, she would become violent. She was jealous, dependent, possessive and angry. After 29 years, I finally decided to get a life. She got the house, the money, the anger and the dog. And me? I got the happiness!

FREE MAN IN FLORIDA

DEAR FREE MAN: It is no longer shocking to hear about long marriages being dissolved. In your case, while the financial penalty may be sizable, it appears to have been worth it. When a relationship becomes one-sided and counseling can't resolve the conflicts, divorce is the answer.

Because of the years of domestic abuse you endured, I hope you will consider counseling so your future relationships will not be adversely affected by your long, unhappy marriage.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Tammi," is attending college in a neighboring state. When I text or call her, she doesn't respond. I have asked her to please just text me back saying she's OK. She says my texting her once a day is "overkill" and I should stop doing it so often—once a week is often enough. I feel it is disrespectful of Tammi not to respond to my texts, even with a simple "OK" or "fine." She texts her friends all the time, so I don't think five seconds is too much to ask of her.

I'm willing to compromise and text Tammi every other day or every three days. She is my only child and I want to know that she is well. Am I being unrealistic or asking too much?

TAMMI'S MOM IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR MOM: Tammi may be your only child, but she's a young woman now, and she needs room to grow up and establish some emotional independence. What you're demanding is an example of helicopter parenting. If you are worried for your daughter's safety, ask her to carry a card in her wallet identifying you as the person to be notified in case of an emergency.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Would you settle a small disagreement? When we are being seated in a restaurant, my husband thanks the maitre d', the server when he is handed the menu and again when his order is taken.

He also thanks the server when his meal arrives at the table, when his iced tea is served, when it is refilled and when the bill is handed to him. As we are on our way out, he again thanks the maitre d' or hostess. Isn't this overdoing a good thing?

SUFFERING IN SILENCE

DEAR SUFFERING: I don't think so. Your husband was taught to verbally express his appreciation when something is done for him. He takes nothing for granted. And that is an admirable trait, not something to complain about.

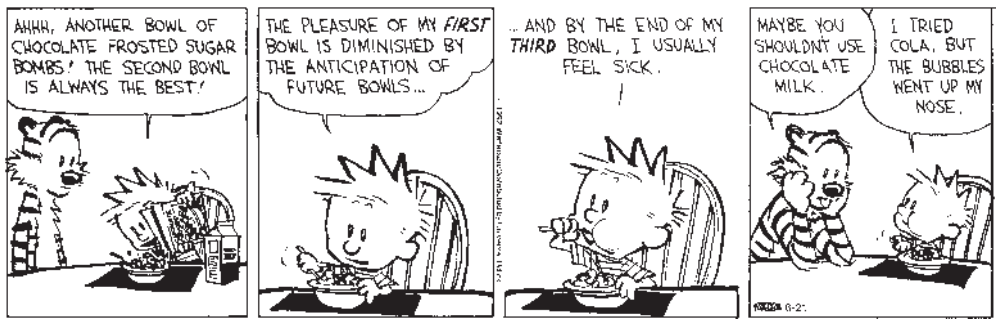
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


AHHH, ANOTHER BOWL OF CHOCOLATE FROSTED SUGAR BOMBS! THE SECOND BOWL IS ALWAYS THE BEST!
THE PLEASURE OF MY FIRST BOWL IS DIMINISHED BY THE ANTICIPATION OF FUTURE BOWLS...
...AND BY THE END OF MY THIRD BOWL, I USUALLY FEEL SICK.
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T USE CHOCOLATE MILK.
I TRIED COLA, BUT THE BUBBLES WENT UP MY NOSE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

"DEAR ASK A DOG"...
"WHO WANTS TO GO FOR A WALK?"
WE'LL HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU WITH THAT ANSWER
JIM DAVIS 6-21
Distributed by Universal Uclick www.facebook.com/garfield
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Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HEY. YOU'RE NOT DR. STYLES.
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M DR. J.
DR. J? IS J YOUR FIRST NAME OR LAST?
MY FIRST NAME IS JULIAN. I JUST GO BY THE INITIAL "J."
I SEE. WHERE IS DR. STYLES?
HE RETIRED.
RETIRED? WHY DIDN'T HE TELL ME?
HE WANTED A REALLY GOOD HEAD START.
6-21
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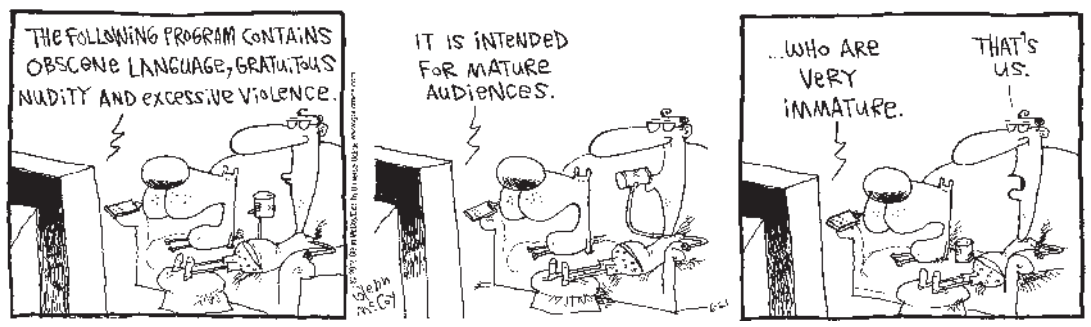
The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM CONTAINS OBSCENE LANGUAGE, GRATUITOUS NUDITY AND EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE.
IT IS INTENDED FOR MATURE AUDIENCES.
...WHO ARE VERY IMMATURE.
THAT'S US.
Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Hanks role
5 Love (Sp.)
9 Cauldron
12 Vicinity
13 Sandwich shop
14 Lawyers' org.
15 Computer access codes
17 Fa-la link
18 Small chalkboards
19 Art supporter
21 Blood type
22 Antillean language
24 Osculation "tools"
27 Every iota
28 Additional
31 "— Little Teapot"
32 Greet the villain
33 Erstwhile acorn
34 Cold War initials
36 Leading lady?
37 Terrier type
38 Move laterally
40 Acidity factor
41 Angle
43 Read
47 Ullmann or Tyler
48 World travelers' needs
51 Raw rock
52 Mother of Helios
53 Works with
54 Simple card game
55 Millinery
56 Knight's wife

DOWN
1 Spaces
2 Caspian feeder
3 Arizona city
4 Penne and ziti
5 Commotions
6 Mal de —
7 On in years
8 Stair part
9 Depositor's record
10 Reed instrument
11 Lofty
16 Symbol of intrigue
20 Intend
22 Piece of garlic
23 Shaving cream additive
24 Actress Lucy
25 Online exchanges
26 Nisan holiday
27 Son of 36-Across
29 Shaft of light
30 — out a living
35 Wardrobe malfunction
37 Cover
39 Profundity
40 Energy
41 At a snail's pace
42 100 centesimi, once
43 Unpaid TV ads (Abbr.)
44 — Major
45 Goblet part
46 Being, to Brutus
49 "Eureka!"
50 Collection

Solution time: 25 mins.

E	S	A	U	■	E	L	M	■	J	I	B	E
G	E	L	T	■	P	O	E	■	A	G	E	S
A	M	B	I	T	I	O	N	■	S	N	A	P
D	I	A	L	O	G	■	D	I	M	I	T	Y
■	■	■	E	A	R	■	S	L	I	T	■	■
Q	A	T	■	D	A	B	■	S	N	I	D	E
L	I	R	A	■	M	E	W	■	E	O	N	S
D	R	U	N	K	■	E	R	A	■	N	A	P
■	■	■	I	D	E	S	■	E	N	D	■	■
O	U	T	A	G	E	■	S	T	A	R	T	S
A	G	I	N	■	P	E	T	I	T	I	O	N
S	L	O	T	■	I	L	L	■	E	C	R	U
T	Y	N	E	■	A	L	E	■	S	O	N	G

Yesterday's answer 6-21

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12				■	13				■	14		
15				16					■	17		
18						■	■	19	20			
■	■	■	21		■	22	23				■	■
24	25	26		■	27			■	28		29	30
31			■	■	32			■	■	33		
34			35	■	36			■	37			
■	■	38		39			■	40		■	■	■
41	42				■	■	43			44	45	46
47			■	48	49	50						
51			■	52				■	53			
54			■	55				■	56			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kris Allen, 27; Prince William, 30; Chris Pratt, 33; Juliette Lewis, 39.

Happy Birthday: Don't live in the past when the present and future have so much more to offer. Expand your horizons, start new projects, learn new skills and meet new people. Get involved in anything that allows you to use your skills and talents in unusual ways. Personal growth will help you get ahead professionally. Strive for perfection and satisfaction. Your numbers are 2, 11, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Avoid anyone making unrealistic promises. Protect personal information and keep your emotions under control. Get out with old friends, or attend a reunion that will bring back memories. Your love life will take an interesting turn. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Invest in something you enjoy. Expand your interests by offering your services for a fee. Working from home will help you stay focused. Greater responsibility and stability can be accomplished. Walk away from anyone who treats you unfairly. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let friends or relatives hinder your productivity. Put the jobs that help pay the bills first. Someone you work with will try to make you look bad. Make sure you do what's expected of you in order to avoid criticism. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't let anyone stand in your way or upset you, disrupting your plans. Make your thoughts known so you can move on without feeling guilty. Don't believe everything you are told, especially if it's someone promising the impossible. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Expect to meet with delays or setbacks if you have to deal with government agencies or institutions. Taking care of an older relative or domestic problem should be done quickly, before you jeopardize your position or your reputation. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Set the stage so you can show off your capabilities. You may face competition, but if you remain steady and precise, rely on past experience and call in favors, you will overcome any challenge you face. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make a move if it will resolve an issue. Offer your services and refuse to let anyone stand in your way or take over. Do whatever it takes to be and do your best. A self-improvement project will boost your confidence. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You have a chance to learn something valuable. Watch what others do and say. Don't waffle when it comes to discarding things you no longer need. Focus on new ventures and purchases. Fixing up your home will improve your productivity. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Initiate changes at home that will make you feel more comfortable or that will enhance a relationship that contributes to your happiness. Don't donate to a cause you know little about. Charity begins at home. Focus on family relationships. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Travel to visit someone you miss, who needs your help or who has something to offer you. Open up about the way you feel and how you want to see a partnership take shape. Don't let a last-minute change of plans upset you. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Weigh your options and consider how you can make the most of your time. A job offer may limit time with friends and family. Assess whether you can make as much working for yourself or from home. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Someone close to you may not be revealing important information required for you to make a good decision. Ask questions, and don't give in or give up until you get the answers you need to move forward. Anger won't solve problems. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, affectionate and engaging. You strive for perfection.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			4			6		1
		4	8	5				
		5				3		
3	2							
7	9			1			6	2
							3	8
		2				9		
				8	6	4		
9		3			1			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	9	1	2	6	8	4	5	7
2	6	4	5	3	7	1	9	8
7	8	5	4	1	9	2	6	3
4	1	9	3	8	2	5	7	6
6	2	7	9	4	5	8	3	1
8	5	3	6	7	1	9	2	4
5	3	6	8	2	4	7	1	9
1	4	2	7	9	3	6	8	5
9	7	8	1	5	6	3	4	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SUMMER HAS OFFICIALLY ARRIVED! **Solution: 7 letters**

T	W	C	N	B	F	L	H	T	O	U	R	Y	E	S
R	E	A	O	I	I	S	C	H	T	A	P	Z	N	Y
A	A	M	T	T	A	K	A	G	O	I	E	A	U	A
V	T	P	P	E	T	R	E	I	W	E	M	L	J	D
E	H	I	I	E	R	A	B	R	R	E	R	E	A	S
L	E	N	C	S	R	P	G	B	I	R	G	Y	D	E
I	R	G	N	D	P	A	A	E	E	D	L	N	X	E
N	E	S	I	R	E	S	T	M	S	I	I	A	O	B
G	S	T	C	I	E	S	M	U	G	W	L	N	L	L
A	O	N	S	B	L	U	S	H	R	E	Ⓑ	Ⓤ	Ⓖ	Ⓢ
R	R	A	A	O	S	E	T	F	R	E	E	D	O	M
D	T	L	O	T	V	G	N	I	M	I	T	R	I	P
E	L	P	O	A	E	R	I	F	N	O	B	O	A	T
N	E	R	E	H	P	S	I	M	E	H	O	U	R	S
S	M	L	I	G	H	T	N	I	N	G	R	A	C	E

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Yu Ping J. Angui, Petitioner, vs. David Angui, Respondent,	)	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0245 **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 2812 BOX 10002, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

DATED, this 12th day of June, 2012:

/s/ Clerk of Court

TIMOTHY H. BELLAS, Esq.
Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, LLC
Attorney-at-Law
Cactus Street & Botones Ave.
P.O. Box 502845
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: 323-2115 • Fax: 323-2116

ATTORNEY FOR: Petitioner Wan Shuxiang

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF, LIU RUNFANG, Deceased.	)	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0139-CV**

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 3rd day of July, 2012, at 1:30pm, Petitioner, WAN, SHUXIANG, will petition the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, on Saipan, to be appointed the Administratrix of the Estate of LIU, RUNFANG, decedent, when and where all persons interested in said Estate may appear and object to said appointment.

2. Notice is also hereby given to all creditors, heirs and any person having any interest in or claim against the Estate of LIU, RUNFANG, deceased, to file any claim they may have with the Commonwealth Superior Court or with Timothy H. Bellas, attorney for Petitioner, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 502845, Saipan, MP 96950, within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication of this Notice.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2012.

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court
Commonwealth Superior Court

TRIPLE J BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INC.
A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CORPORATION

ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION

Pursuant to 4 C.M.C. §4603, TRIPLE J BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INC., a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Corporation, hereby submits these Articles of Dissolution, setting forth the following information required by statue:

1. Name of Corporation: **TRIPLE J BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INC.**
2. Date dissolution authorized: **May 31, 2012**
3. The dissolution was approved by the shareholders. Numbers of votes entitled to cast and votes cast: **1,000 SHARES TOTAL 1,000 VOTED IN FAVOR OF DISSOLUTION**
4. Effective date of dissolution: **June 1, 2012.**

Dated this 1st day of June, 2012.

/s/ ROBERT H. JONES
PRESIDENT
TRIPLE J BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INC.
A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CORPORATION

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Heat one win away from clinching crown

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James could hardly stand, certainly couldn't run. Good thing all he needed to do was shoot

Better get well fast, LeBron. You're one win away from the biggest party of your life.

A limping, grimacing James shook off a left leg injury to hit a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 2:54 remaining and the Miami Heat held off the Oklahoma City Thunder for a 104-98 victory Tuesday night and a 3-1 lead in the NBA Finals.

Game 5 is Thursday night and James will have a chance to finish a nine-year chase that started in Cleveland before he famously—or infamously—left for South Florida before last season. No team has blown a 3-1 lead in the finals.

With James watching the final moments, Mario Chalmers finished off a stellar 25-point effort that matched Dwyane Wade. James had 26 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds, only missing a triple-double because he was on the bench at the end after appearing to hurt his thigh in a fall near the Thunder basket.

The Heat needed all James could give and more to hold off Russell Westbrook. He scored 43 points for the Thunder, who wasted an early 17-point lead but were never out of the game because of their sensational point guard. Kevin Durant had 28 points but James Harden threw in another clunker, finishing with eight points on 2-of-10 shooting. Westbrook and Durant were the only Thunder players to score in the last 16:46.

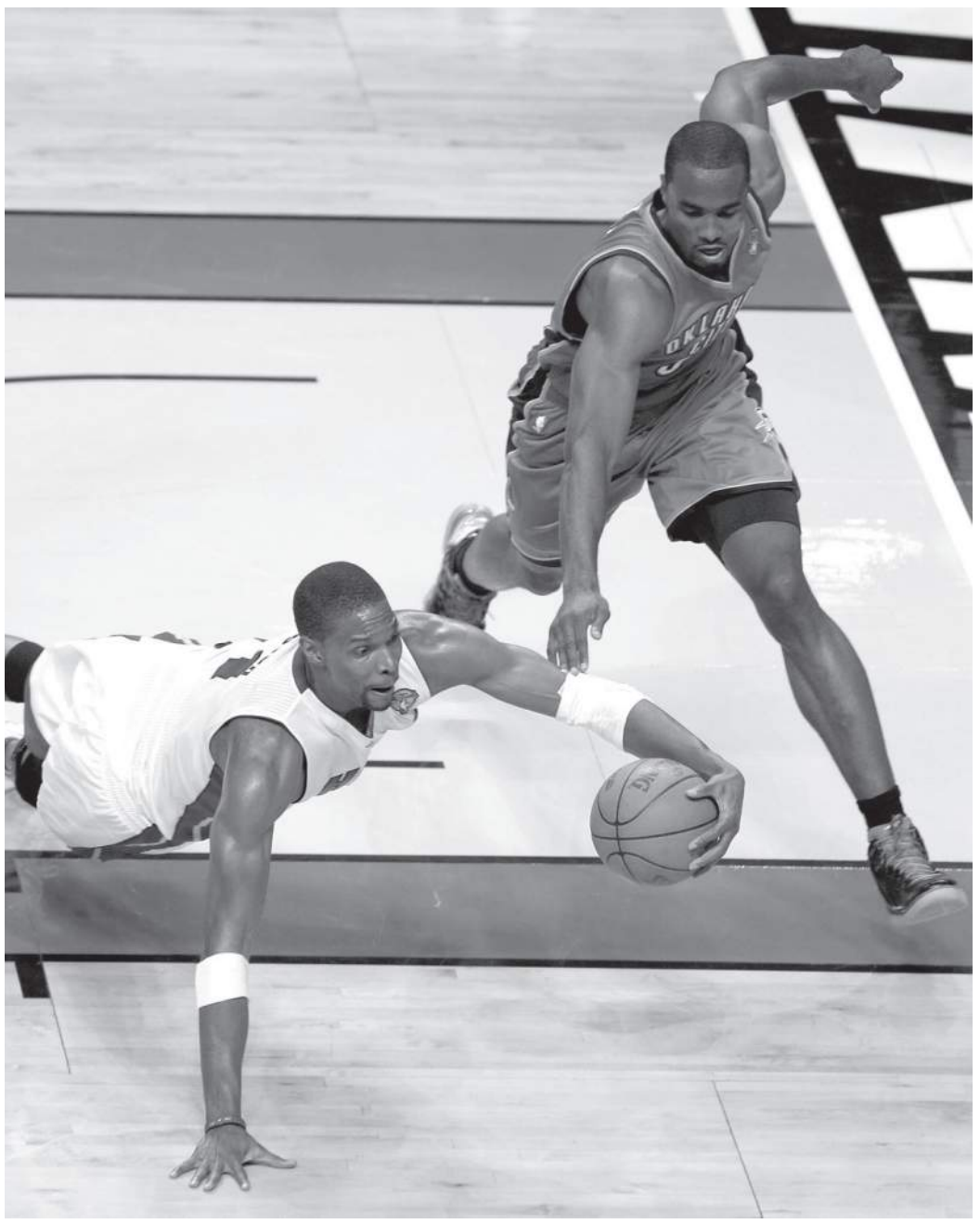
"Shots were falling," said Westbrook, who was 20 of 32. "It really doesn't mean nothing. We didn't come out with the win."

James stumbled to the court on a drive midway through the fourth quarter, staying on the offensive end of the floor as the Heat regained possession on a blocked shot, and he made a short jumper that made it 92-90. After Westbrook missed a jumper, the Heat called timeout as James gingerly went to the court. Unable to walk off, he was carried to the sideline by a pair of teammates.

He returned to a huge roar with a little over 4 minutes left and the Heat down two, and after Chris Bosh tied it, James slowly walked into a pull-up 3-point attempt - perhaps doing so knowing he couldn't drive by anyone - and drilled it.

That made it 97-94, and when Wade followed with a layup with 2:19 left, the Heat finally enough room to withstand Westbrook, who kept coming all night.

"Whatever it takes. No excuses," said Wade, who had to shake off his own aches and pains after landing hard on his back in the first half following a spectacular block by Serge Ibaka. "You don't want to leave this arena saying you missed opportunities."



AP

Miami Heat power forward Chris Bosh (1) and Oklahoma City Thunder power forward Serge Ibaka from Republic of Congo go after a loose ball during the first half at Game 4 of the NBA finals basketball series, Tuesday, June 19, 2012, in Miami.

Chalmers sure didn't. The player who was struggling so badly that the Thunder put Durant on him in hopes of avoiding further foul trouble made 9 of 15 shots, scoring more points than he had in the previous three games.

"Mario Chalmers is a winner," Wade added. "He's due for a big game and he came through for us."

The Heat couldn't have done it without James, who refused to let any pain prevent him from taking the biggest step of his career.

The Heat never got past their second finals victory last year, with James' struggles their biggest problem as they lost the last three to Dallas. But he was at his brilliant best in this one, keeping up his scoring surge but also willingly kicking it out to open teammates whenever he was double-teamed.

He tried to play through the pain, but the Heat had to call another timeout and remove him for good shortly after his go-ahead basket. There was no immediate word on the extent of his injury.

Bosh finished with 13 points and nine rebounds for the Heat, who quickly climbed out of the 17-point hole by scoring 16 straight points, with Chalmers and backup Norris Cole helping steady them until James and Wade got going.

James and Durant sat alone on their benches moments before the game, Durant staring quietly toward the floor and James saying something to pump himself up. Then they went out to start, and this time Durant stayed away from him.

In foul trouble the last two games, he began the game covering Chalmers, an adjustment that freed him from the burden of defending James. It kept Durant safe from fouls - but the Thunder probably didn't count on the scoring explosion from Chalmers after he totaled just five points over the previous two games.

"I took that as a little sign of disrespect," Chalmers said.

Neither team could gain separation during a dizzying middle two periods, one score quickly answered on the other end as Miami took a 79-75 lead to the final 12 minutes.

Westbrook hit his first four shots and the Thunder made six of their first seven in a 13-3 burst out of the gate. A run of six straight made it 23-12 against the stunned Heat, who started 5 of 17, and it grew to 33-17 on Harden's fast-break layup with 21 seconds left.

"It wasn't a matter of not wanting and not bringing it. Our guys were ready," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "They came out with an incredible ferocity to start that game."

The Heat found their spark in Cole, who hit a 3-pointer and then opened the second quarter with another to kick off a 16-0 burst, and the Heat would come all the way back to tie it at 35 on Wade's 3-pointer with 7:57 remaining in the half.

With the crowd back in it, Bosh get them even more fired up by diving on the floor for a loose ball, then leaping up after he was fouled and screaming toward the fans.

Yet the Thunder never gave up the lead, Westbrook constantly coming through with a bucket every time the Heat seemed to get within one point in the final minutes. The Thunder took a 49-46 lead into the break after Shane Battier missed a 3-point attempt just before the buzzer.

Miami finally went in front again in the third, Wade hitting a pair of free throws and James rifling a pass to him after a rebound for a basket that made it 50-49, and the Heat would play from in front for most of the remainder of the period.

Riley selected as Chuck Daly Award recipient

MIAMI (AP)—Pat Riley was walking out of Chuck Daly's hospital room in 2009, got to the doorway and turned around for another word from his longtime colleague, rival and friend.

Riley remembers it vividly.

"He looked at me, I looked back at him for a pause and he just sort of said, `I'll see you later,'" said Riley, the Hall of Fame coach and now president of the Miami Heat. "I'll never forget it. That was the last time I saw him."

Riley and Daly were rivals as coaches, eventually became close friends and now they're linked once again. The National Basketball Coaches Association selected Riley as this year's recipient of the Chuck Daly Lifetime Achievement Award, which commemorates the former Detroit coach's life in basketball and his "standard of integrity, competitive excellence and tireless promotion" of the game.

Riley is the fifth person to receive the award, joining Tommy Heinsohn in 2009, Jack Ramsay and Tex Winter in 2010 and Lenny Wilkens in 2011.

"This is not an award," Riley said. "This is something somebody bestows on you. I'm very honored that the coaches association would do this."

Riley has been part of the NBA for more than 40 years, with 1,210 wins and 21 playoff appearances as a head coach, a slew of charitable undertakings in Miami, Los Angeles and New York.

"Well, for us as a team, he means a lot," Heat forward LeBron James said. "You know, he put together this team, and we just look at his resume. We look at his experience either as a player, as a coach or as an executive. He's done some great things. ... Any insight that he gives you, he's giving it because of experience. He knows all about it. He's won at the highest level multiple times."

The award comes with perhaps extra significance this year, with so much attention on the 20th anniversary of the Dream Team - the team of NBA stars that went to the 1992 Olympics and won a gold medal, with Daly leading the way as the coach.

"I think the perspective was very clear what that team was and what that team was about," Riley said. "He had absolute confidence being around these types of players, tremendous confidence challenged them in such a way that I don't think anybody else could have challenged them."

Riley's team has some challenges these days as well, of course.

The Heat are back in the finals for the second straight year—and in a touch of irony, Rick Carlisle, who coached the Dallas Mavericks to last year's championship against Miami, is the president of the association. Carlisle was among the group that selected Riley as this year's Daly award recipient.

"When it came to coaching, Chuck Daly always felt that Pat Riley was the best of the best," Carlisle said. "Chuck was a great admirer of Pat's uncompromising intensity, class and style."

And style was one of the things Riley and Daly talked about often in the final months of Daly's life.

Daly was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer early in 2009, and his condition rapidly diminished. He spent much of his final weeks and months around friends and family in South Florida - and Riley often made the hour-or-so drive north to see Daly and spend time with the man he spent so many years coaching against.

Riley was Showtime. Daly was called Daddy Rich. They had the tailored suits, the perfect hairstyles, the look of success.

"He was always dapper and very stylish," Riley said. "We talked a lot about clothes, how he loved to go shopping, window shopping, go try on things and stuff like that. And then I used to ask him, how can you wear your polo coaching shirt with your collar up? Every time I saw him, he had his collar up. He laughed about it. It was his trademark. I think we were very proud to be a coach. Coaching was very important to us."

Turns out, they had much more in common than either of them would have likely envisioned.

"We spoke a lot about how we were brought up and why we were so fortunate to do what we do for so long," Riley said. "Two Irishmen, there's a little wall there. You don't go too deep with it. But we had some fun together."

Their upbringings were similar in many respects, both preached about the value of work on one's esteem, and both were intensely driven by winning. Their teams met twice in the NBA Finals, Riley and the Los Angeles Lakers winning in 1988, Daly and the Pistons beating the Lakers in 1989.

"I took a lot from Chuck in those encounters," Riley said.

Braves end Yankees' 10-game winning streak

NEW YORK (AP) — Chipper Jones atoned for a costly error by cutting down the potential tying run at the plate as the Atlanta Braves held on to beat New York 4-3 on Tuesday night, ending the Yankees' 10-game winning streak.

The Yankees were trying to match their longest winning string in nearly a half-century. Instead, the Braves threw out two runners at home and won for only the second time in nine games.

Jason Heyward singled home the go-ahead run in the sixth inning off Hiroki Kuroda (6-7). Heyward also tripled and scored, and nailed Mark Teixeira at home with a strong throw from right field.

Rookie Andrelton Simmons drove in two runs and Jones delivered an RBI double for the slumping Braves.

Tim Hudson (5-3) labored through five innings and four relievers preserved the lead. Craig Kimbrel closed for his NL-leading 20th save.

"We wouldn't have gotten there if it wasn't for Jason Heyward," Braves manager Fredi Gonzalez said.

Down by a run, the Yankees threatened in the seventh. Curtis Granderson opened with a single off Jonny Venters, Alex Rodriguez walked and the runners moved up on a groundout. Teixeira followed with a sharp grounder and Granderson broke home, but Jones made a strong throw and catcher Brian McCann applied the tag. Raul Ibanez then struck out.

"You play third base, you know you're going to have the lowest-fielding percentage in the infield," Jones said. "You get some rockets, some balls with topspin. The big thing on that play was the pick. Once I picked it, I could make the throw and Mac set a nice target."

Phillies' Galvis suspended 50 games

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Philadelphia Phillies rookie infielder Freddy Galvis was suspended 50 games by Major League Baseball on Tuesday for testing positive for a banned substance.

Galvis is currently on the disabled list with a back injury and will begin serving his suspension immediately. MLB said Galvis tested positive for a metabolite of Clostebol, a performance-enhancing substance.

"A trace amount of a banned substance—80 parts in a trillion - was detected in my urine sample," Galvis said in a statement. "I am extremely disappointed in what has transpired. I cannot understand how even this tiny particle of a banned substance got into my body.

"I have not and never would knowingly use anything illegal to enhance my performance. I have always tried to follow the team's strength and conditioning methods, listen to the trainers, work out hard and eat right. Unfortunately, the rules are the rules and I will be suspended."

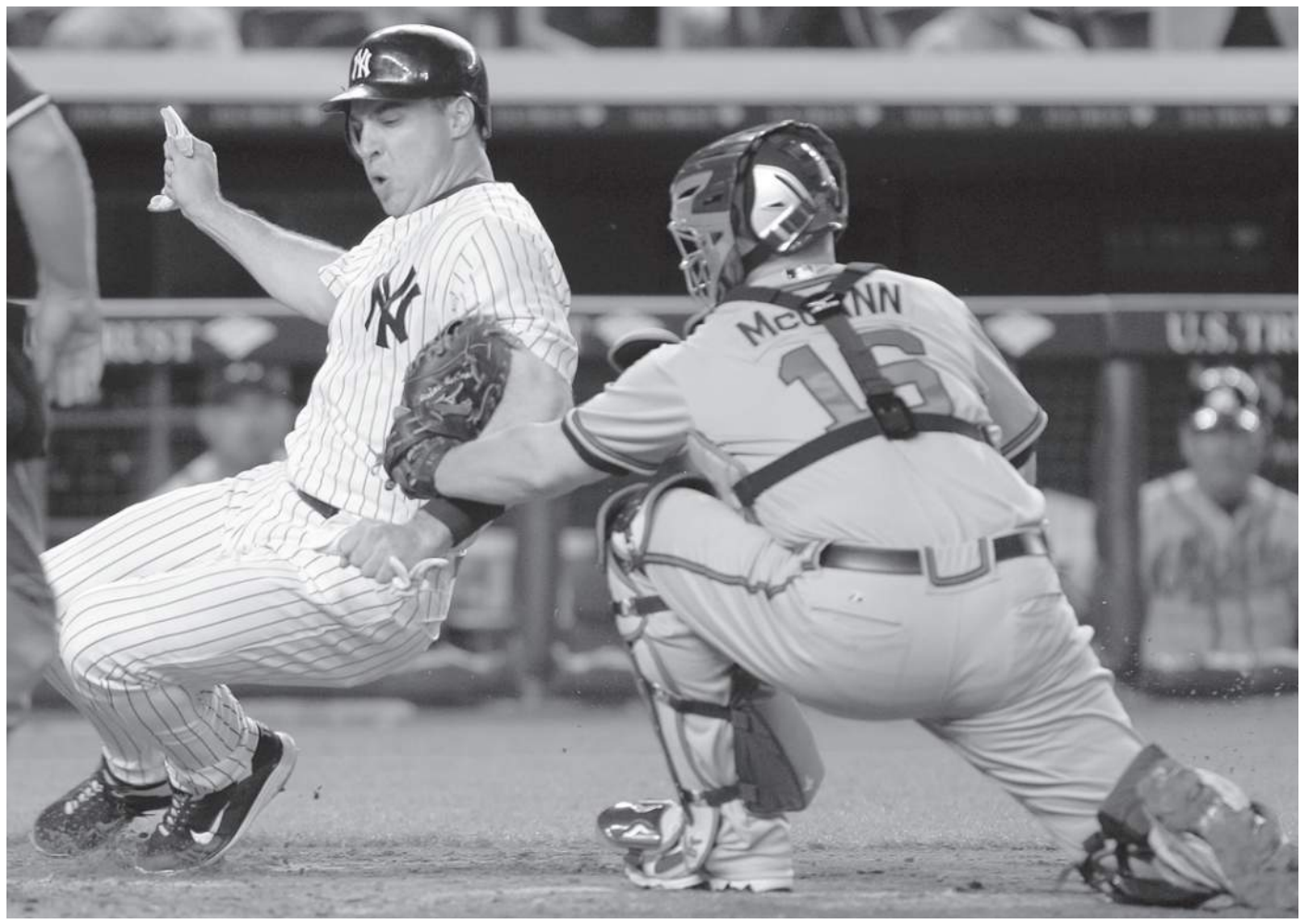
Galvis, listed at 5-foot-10 and 170 pounds, had filled in nicely for injured second baseman Chase Utley before getting hurt. He was batting .226 with three homers, 15 doubles and 24 RBIs. It's likely Galvis will be on the DL for the duration of his suspension.

"It's disappointing," Phillies general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. said. "We fully support the program and the decision. At the same time, we support the player, we want him to get healthy and get back on the field. We believe in the kid and think he has a great future for us."

Galvis was primarily a shortstop in the minors and likely would've started at Triple-A this year because former MVP Jimmy Rollins plays his position. But Galvis moved over to second base in spring training to replace Utley and he made the transition look easy with his outstanding glove work.

The 22-year-old Galvis suffered a pars fracture of his L45 vertebra while swinging the bat during a game against the Los Angeles Dodgers on June 6. He is wearing a brace for at least three weeks and can't do any physical activity.

I'd like to apologize to my all my fans, especially here in Philadelphia and back home in Venezuela, to my teammates and to the Phillies organization," Galvis said. "I am looking forward to putting this behind me, rehabilitating my back and returning to the Phillies as soon as possible to try to help them win another World Series."



AP

Atlanta Braves catcher Brian McCann (16) tags out New York Yankees' Mark Teixeira during the fifth inning of a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Tuesday, June 19, 2012.

Tigers 6, Cardinals 3

In Detroit, Justin Verlander allowed one earned run in seven innings, leading the Tigers to a victory over the Cardinals.

Verlander (7-4) retired 12 of the first 13 hitters he faced and worked out of a seventh-inning jam to help Detroit hold on. He struck out Allen Craig with the bases loaded with his final pitch. Verlander allowed five hits and walked four, striking out only three.

Joaquin Benoit worked the eighth, and Phil Coke pitched a perfect ninth for his first save of the year.

Lance Lynn (10-3) allowed five runs and nine hits in five innings. He struck out four and walked two.

Red Sox 7, Marlins 5

In Boston, David Ortiz hit his 17th homer and Clay Buchholz won his fourth straight start as Boston won for the fifth time in six games.

Cody Ross, activated from the disabled list before the game, and Kelly Shoppach also homered as Buchholz (8-2) benefited again from a strong hitting attack. He entered the game with the second-best support in the majors, 7.51 runs per nine innings.

And the win came at Fenway Park, where the Red Sox had lost their previous three games, six of seven, and are just 15-19 this season. The Red Sox won their third straight overall in the opener of a nine-game homestand.

Logan Morrison drove in all five Miami runs with a two-run homer and two doubles.

Mets 5, Orioles 0

In New York, Johan Santana pitched six sharp innings and Lucas Duda hit a two-run homer as the Mets beat Baltimore for their second straight shutout of the Orioles.

Santana followed R.A. Dickey's second one-hitter in a row with his best outing since he tossed a no-hitter on June 1. Jordany Valdespin added a two-run single for New York, which won by the same score Monday night in the series opener.

It was the second time this month that Santana and Dickey have thrown back-to-back shutouts.

Santana (5-3) had a pair of shaky outings after his no-hitter, but he was back in fine form against the suddenly punchless Orioles. The left-hander allowed four hits and struck out five.

Bobby Parnell, Miguel Batista and Jon Rauch each worked an inning to finish the five-hitter and extend Baltimore's scoreless streak to 21 innings, dating to Sunday's 2-0 victory in Atlanta.

The Orioles, who had won seven of eight before arriving at Citi Field, were shut out in consecutive games for the first time since April 2005.

Phillies 7, Rockies 2

In Philadelphia, Cole Hamels threw eight sharp innings and John Mayberry Jr. and Carlos Ruiz hit two-run homers in the win.

The last-place Phillies started a 10-game homestand with just their fourth win in 16 games.

The Rockies are 1-11 since June 4.

Hamels (10-3) allowed two runs and six hits, striking out seven. The lefty had a 6.07 ERA in his previous four starts.

Rockies starter Josh Outman (0-3) gave up four runs and five hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Mayberry connected for the third straight game. He has hit four of his six homers this season in the last five games.

Pirates 7, Twins 2

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen had three hits, including his 12th homer of the season, and Kevin Correia ended a lengthy winless streak at home as Pittsburgh beat Minnesota.

Correia (3-6), pitched 5 1-3 shutout innings, allowing four hits to go with a walk and two strikeouts to earn his first victory in Pittsburgh in nearly a year.

Josh Harrison and Clint Barmes added three hits apiece for Pittsburgh, which has won three straight to climb four games above .500 (35-31).

Rays 5, Nationals 4

In Washington, Carlos Pena hit a two-run homer and David Price bounced back from his worst start of the season to pitch seven strong innings, leading the Rays to a victory over the Nationals.

Price (9-4) gave up four runs on six hits. He struck out four and walked one to help Tampa Bay win for the third time in four games. His last time out against the Mets, Price gave up seven runs in five innings.

Rays reliever Joel Peralta was ejected from the game in the eighth inning without throwing a pitch after the umpires found a foreign substance on his glove. Nationals starter Chien-Ming Wang (2-3) struggled from the start.

Indians 3, Reds 2, 10 innings

In Cleveland, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a two-run homer with one out in the 10th inning off hard-throwing Aroldis Chapman to give Cleveland a win over Cincinnati.

Cabrera drove a 3-1 pitch from Chapman (4-3) into the right-field seats with one out. The second homer allowed this season by the left-hander scored Shin-Soo Choo, who had singled.

The Reds had taken a 2-1 lead in the top of the 10th when Chris Heisey scored from third base with a headfirst slide on a wild pitch by Nick Hagadone.

Royals 2, Astros 0

In Houston, Luke Hochevar pitched into the eighth inning, two relievers completed the shutout, and Billy Butler hit a solo home run to lead Kansas City over Houston.

Hochevar (4-7) earned his first victory since May 12. He had four losses and two no-decisions since his previous win. He pitched no-hit ball into the fifth inning and allowed five hits and struck out six in a season-high 7 2-3 innings. Aaron Crow and closer Jonathan Broxton combined to allow no hits in the last 1 1-3 innings. Broxton earned his 17th save.

Cubs 2, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Travis Wood pitched six strong innings for his first win as a starter in more than a year and the Cubs beat the White Sox.

David DeJesus drove in two runs with a single in the third inning. He led off the ninth with a triple, but Jake Peavy finished his complete game by striking out Steve Clevenger looking at a 2-2 pitch with runners on second and third.

The Cubs handed the White Sox their sixth loss in seven games.

Wood (1-3) came away with his first win since a relief appearance for Cincinnati at Pittsburgh on Aug. 19. He hadn't won as a starter since he beat the Los Angeles Dodgers last June 15. He allowing one run and four hits while striking out five and walking four.

Rota Mayor's Cup tees off this Saturday

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rota Mayor's Office will be holding the inaugural Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament this Saturday at the Rota Resort & Country Club.

Show time is set for 6:30am with a 7:30am shotgun start.

"We invite golfers from Saipan, Guam, and Tinian to spend the weekend with us on Rota for a nice change of scenery out on the links," said CNMI Office of the 13th Rota Municipal Council chairman George Hocog over the phone yesterday.

Hocog noted that they hope to make the Mayor's Cup an annual event. He added that tourists are also more than welcome to participate.

Prize packages will be awarded to the Top 3 gross score winners and double-peoria/net score finishers. Prizes will also be issued to the fourth through 15th net finishers.

The top finisher in the double-peoria scoring will receive $1,000, free entry into the coveted Tournament of Champions Tournament, and a round trip ticket from Freedom Air. Second placer wins $300, a bottle of wine, and a golf towel and third finisher receives $100 and a new golf bag.

The golfer with the lowest gross score wins $300, entry into August's TOC event, and a round trip ticket fom Freedom Air. The second best gross finisher gets $200, a bottle of wine, and a golf towel, and the third placer wins $100 and a golf bag. Other prizes for the remaining 12 finishers (net scores) include local airline tickets, hotel stays, various gift certificates, and other miscellaneous items.

In addition, there are two hole-in-one prizes on No. 7 and 14, along with a pair of closest to the pin and long drive prizes. Moylan Underwriting Insurance will be giving away $10,000 to the golfer who manages to sink No. 7 from the tee, while the Rota Mayor's office puts up $3,000 for an ace on No. 14.

Entrance fee is only $110 per player, which includes admittance into the awards banquet. The tournament is limited to 70 players. Upon registration, refunds will not be honored to no-shows; other cancellation fees also apply.

Special group rates for room accommodation, airfare, and one practice round are available. The one-night packages (June 23) are available for $381 a couple, $544 for three, $707 for four, and $870 for groups of five. Two-night (June 22-23) packages are listed at $502 for two, $698 for three, $894 for foursomes, and $1,090 for parties of five. Three-night packages (June 22-24) are available for $623 per couple, $762 for three, $961 for four and $1,160 for five.

Freedom Air, Mobil Oil, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Holiday Resort Guam, Café Air, Pacific Islands Club, Islander Rent-A-Car, Coral Ocean Point Resort Club, and National Office Supply are sponsoring the inaugural competition.

Hocog, CNMI Office of the 13th Rota Municipal Council's chief of staff Steve Mesngon, vice chair Arvin Ogo, Rota Mayor's Office's chief of staff Efrain Atalig, and Rota Resort & Country Club's Ephrain Tipa coordinated the event.

For more information, call (670)-532-1155, local 4300, or email rrcc_clubhouse@pticom.com.

SSC to host 'Learn To Swim' program

The Saipan Swim Club will start its series of American Red Cross "Learn To Swim" lessons next week at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan pool.

The first week of swim lessons will run from June 25 to 29, from 9am to 10am. Only the first 20 swimmers to register per session will be allowed at the pool. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. The second week of swim sessions will be held from July 2-5, and July 6, from 9am to 10:15am. The lessons are open for children in the 5-and-above age group.

Upon completion of each session, SSC, which is an authorized ARC Aquatics Training Provider, will award ARC "Learn To Swim" cards to each participant.

Interested swimmers are asked to be at the pool 30 minutes before the start of the lesson. Swimmers are also required to wear swimsuit and goggles. A parent or guardian must accompany the swimmer and remain on the deck near the child at all times.

Registration fee is only $25 per session and only $20 for the additional swimmer in the same family.

Meanwhile, SSC would like to thank Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan for allowing the club to hold the swim lessons in their pool and ARC for its continuing support.

For more information, send email to coach@saipanswimclub.com ***(PR)***

Saipan Swim Club coach Mike Villagomez joins young swimmers in a lesson at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JI HOON

From Page 28

a full scholarship from his new school.

"I knew the MSU coach even before when I was being recruited in my senior year in high school so I contacted him and he offered me a good scholarship," he added.

Before moving to MSU, Heo had two fruitful years with HPU. He won his first four games of the season and helped the Sea Warriors advance to the 2011 NCAA National Championship in Florida. Heo finished his debut season playing No. 3 in singles and holding an 11-5 record in singles and 9-8 in doubles. In the Nationals, he won both his singles and doubles games. In his sophomore year, Heo also helped the Warriors earn a slot to the Nationals.

"I really love Hawaii. I surfed, I had a lot of fun and it was one of the most difficult decisions I had to make," Heo said

"My former teammates are really a bunch of great guys and I know they'll do well the next season. I'll definitely miss them and it's always difficult to say goodbye to teammates, especially what you've been through. We worked together, played together, lost together, won together, and within two years, we really became a family," he added.

Heo is expected to train with his new team early August this year and he hopes to contribute to the Eagles' cause in his first season

"I am hoping to have a dynamic impact at MSU and give a lot more depth to my new team. Obviously our goal would be to win the national championship but first we have to work hard to qualify in the Nationals. I also wish to finish my degree there. I value education just as much as I value tennis," said Heo, who majored International Studies and Integrated Multimedia at HPU.

Heo added he hopes to see more players from the CNMI and the Pacific compete in collegiate tennis.

"There is a huge talent in the CNMI and the Pacific and I hope to see more players from the Pacific in U.S. colleges. I know they have what it takes to play high-level tennis. I saw it when I watched coach Jeff Race's lessons and hit a little with them. They are great, talented kids," Heo said.

SWEEP

From Page 28

Laguna held MAFEA to four field goals in the opening quarter for an early double-digit lead, 24-10. Sonny Ebuen and Hae Jun Park teamed up in the good start, combining for 12 points.

In the second quarter, MAFEA managed to keep up with Laguna, 19-18, but the latter answered with a 20-9 scoring in the third canto to break the game wide open.

Ebuen went on to top-score for Laguna with 27 points, while Dindo Pablo contributed 15, and Ed Pangilinan and Erlan Lansang drilled 13 apiece.

Mike Surima was the lone bright spot for the winless MAFEA with his 23 points. Dionisio Manicden had 11, but most of his points were made when the game was already decided.

First Game

MDX/Armatech 90 – Berline 21, Abuy 13, Tobias 12, Crisostomo 11, Malasarte 9, Canedo 7, Poquiz 5, Jinang 4, Gabaldon 1.

VisMinda/Civic Boys 62 – Geli 30, Miguel 11, Olfindo 6, Bello 6, Sevilla 4, Quemado 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-13, 48-36, 69-48, 90-62.

Second Game

Laguna/Twinkle/Erika's 87 – Ebuen 27, Pablo 15, Pangilinan 13, Lansang 13, Guerrero 8, Park 8, Lopez 4.

MAFEA/CMI 52 – Surima 21, Manicden 11, Paraiso 6, Leong 6, Garcia 3, Jastillana 2, Guirey 1.

Scoring by quarters: 24-10, 42-29, 62-38, 87-52.

FITIAL

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has been confirmed about the issue. There is a also no update about Fitial's title defense, as PXC has not responded to any emails *Saipan Tribune* sent.

According to Fitial, his contract expired on June 11 and he never received details about retaining his belt.

Fitial did not comment on much more than that, but did share plans of possibly traveling to Japan to participate in a separate MMA charity event. He also expresses hopes of gaining support from the Marianas Visitors Authority to help with the traveling expenses.

JAPANESE

From Page 28

tion age divisions are: 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60-and-up. Those age 18-and-under will be entered into the Junior Division.

The race will begin at 6:30am, followed by an island-style breakfast and awards ceremony on the white sand beaches of Managaha.

Registration fee is $25 for CNMI residents with valid I.D. Participants must be in good health with snorkeling or diving experience.

The event is also sponsored by the Community Sports Center Foundation of Japan.

For more information or to register, contact the MVA at 1.670.664.3210, or visit the Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

2012 CNMI District Tournament (Senior Division)

PHOTOS BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Tinian's Dellchibai Cruz rifles home a pitch.

Saipan's Cedric Ada looks on an incoming pitch.

Rota's shortstop Devin Apatang throws over to first base.

Saipan's AJ Lizama, left, tags out a Rota runner at second base during their game in the 2012 CNMI District Tournament at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Right, the Saipan Senior All-Stars pose for a photo at the dugout.

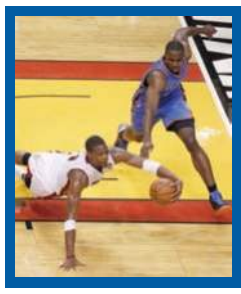
Tinian catcher Ignacio Borja fires over to second base.

Saipan's Keoni Kaipat delivers a pitch in the senior league finals against Rota.

Saipan's Jontahan Villagomez blocks a base hit to right field.

Seated in second row, Rep. Joseph Guerrero, left, and Rep. Ton Sablan are in attendance, cheering on the home team.

Some fans smile for the camera as they cheer on the teams.



Heat one win away from clinching crown

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Sports

Braves end Yankees' 10-game winning streak

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Ji Hoon moves up to NCAA Division I

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A bigger and much tougher competition awaits former CNMI top junior player Ji Hoon Heo this season.

Heo will be seeing action in the NCAA Division I on his junior year after transferring from Hawaii Pacific University to Morehead State University in Kentucky. The MSU Eagles are competing in Ohio Valley Conference (OVC).

Joining NCAA Division I games is a dream come true for the 20-year-old player, who had a short vacation on Saipan early this month before leaving for South Korea last week to visit family members.

"I really wanted to transfer to a Division I school after two years with HPU. I knew I wanted to take my tennis to a higher level. HPU has a very high level program and I am glad I was able to hone my skills there for two years and prepare myself for a Division I school like MSU," said Heo, who received

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Ji Hoon Heo, seen here playing for Hawaii Pacific University last year, will be competing in NCAA Division I with Morehead State University.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese Olympic medalist to join Saipan Flipper Race

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Japan's Ai Shibata poses with her gold medal in the 800m freestyle race during the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Race organizers have announced that Ai Shibata, a Japanese Olympic gold medalist in the Athens 2004 Olympics, will join the 4th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race this Saturday.

Shibata will support over 30 other Japanese, who have registered for the event. Participants will have a final opportunity to register this Friday, June 22, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park amphitheater.

Also, ferries will depart Smiling Cove Marina to Managaha promptly at 4:45am on Saturday, earlier than previously announced.

"Due to some scheduling conflicts, the ferries will depart on Saturday at 4:45am. We encourage participants to register early for logistical planning purposes, no later than Friday," said MVA community projects manager Martin Duenas.

This weekend's race features a 1.5-km swim around Managaha, the most popular site for visitors to Saipan. This unique race requires swimmers to use wetsuits and fins. Snorkels and life jackets are also allowed. Competi-

See JAPANESE on Page 26

Fitial still awaiting contender in PXC

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Fitial

Pacific Xtreme Combat heavyweight champion Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial has yet to hear from PXC about a title defense bout after his victory over Guam's Roque Martinez in June last year.

Fitial of Marianas Elite defeated Spike 22's Martinez (5-4-1) via technical knockout in the fourth round of their rematch held in Manila, Philippines, on June 11, to improve his card to 12 wins. Fitial also has six losses, two draws, and one no contest on his record.

In addition to winning the PXC heavyweight championship, Fitial has also fought and won a bout in Legend Fighting Championship 3 in September 2010 in Wan Chai, Hong Kong and was hailed locally as the People's Champ by Trench Tech Purebred Promotions following an iffy draw decision in his first meeting with Martinez.

Mixed Martial Arts supporters claimed that Fitial defeated Martinez not once, but twice, including the fight that resulted in a controversial draw in January 2011 in PXC 22: Battle For The Belt at the University of Guam's Fieldhouse.

There are words swaying about an ownership dispute within PXC, however nothing

See FITIAL on Page 26

Sweep for MDX/Armatech

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX's Ferdie Tobias, seen here using a screen from Art Trajano to pull up for an open jumper, scored 12 points in their 90-62 rout of VisMinda/Civic Boys during their game in the UFO Budweiser Cup last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Defending champion MDX/Armatech kept its unbeaten record in the regular season of the 2012 UFO Masters Budweiser Cup, following a 90-62 demolition of VisMinda/Civic Boys last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

MDX finished the round-robin regular season with a 5-0 slate, ahead of Bayani/LBT Appraisal (3-1), Laguna/Twinkle/Erika's (3-2), Batangas/Fong's Bakery (2-2), VisMinda/Civic Boys (1-4), and MAFEA/CMI (0-5). Batangas and Bayani square off for the last regular season game tonight. All six teams will compete in the playoff round with the format of the post-season to be discussed this weekend.

A 23-13 scoring in the opening quarter was enough to give MDX control of the lopsided game. Bruce Berline was a force in the paint for MDX early on, scoring 11 of his 21 markers in the opening canto.

It was still all MDX in the next three quarters with Berline taking care of things inside and guards James Abuy and Ferdie Tobias doing the damage in the perimeter. Abuy finished with 13 points, while Tobias added 12, stepping up in absence of fellow guard, Martin Moreno.

Bobby Geli, who exploded for 36 points in their 84-97 loss to Batangas last Thursday, had another monster game, firing 30 markers. However, he drew little support from his teammates, as Roy Miguel was the only other VisMinda player to score double figures with 11.

VisMinda was held to no more than 14 points in three of the four quarters, showing its best offensive game in the second canto with its 23 markers. In contrast, MDX consistently nailed 20-plus points in four periods.

MDX still outgunned VisMinda in the second frame, 25-23, for a 12-point halftime lead, 48-26, and then pulled away completely in the third with a 21-12 scoring for a 69-48 advantage, entering the fourth canto.

Laguna 87, MAFEA 72

The second game in the penultimate day of the regular season also resulted in a rout with Laguna on the winning end of the one-sided affair.

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